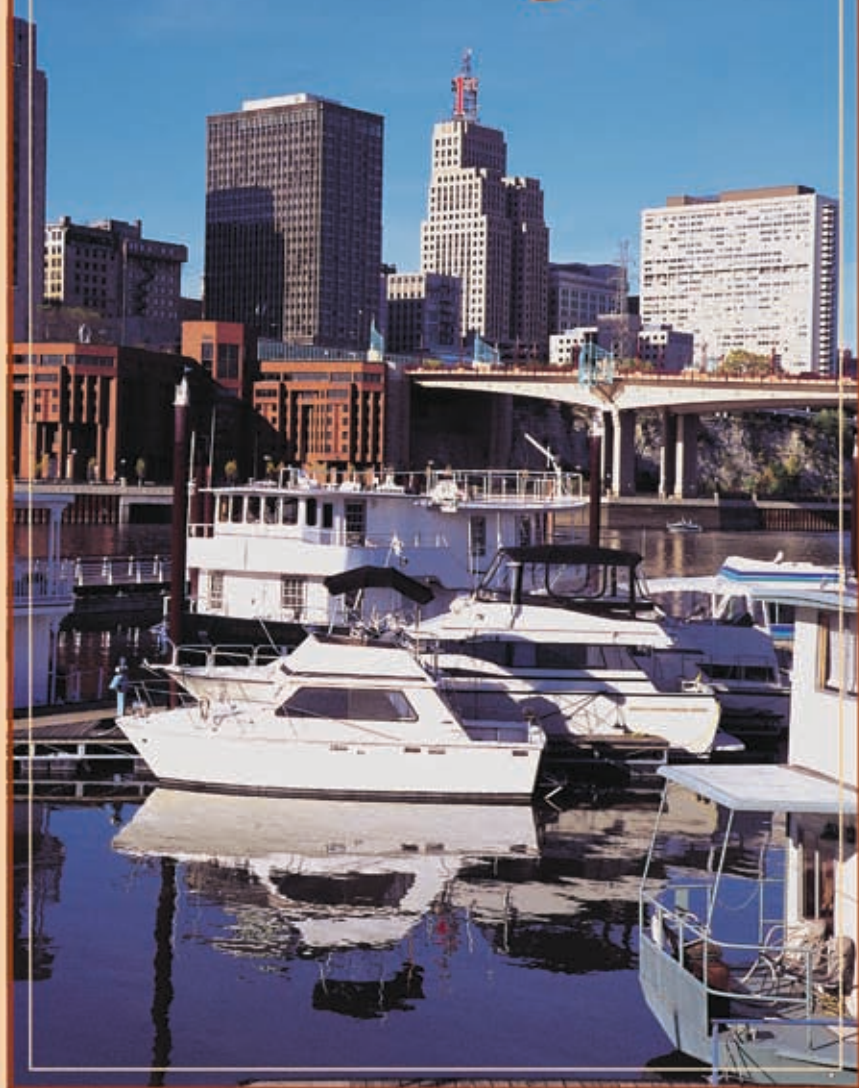


Metro Area Rivers Guide



*A guide to boating on the
Mississippi, St. Croix and
Minnesota rivers.*

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

2010

Metro Area Rivers Guide

Department of Natural Resources



While not an approved boating safety course, this publication is recognized by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators to benefit boating safety - 2010.

Information in this publication was updated in 2010.
Front cover photo taken by © Lawrence C. Duke.



Unsinkable Molly Brown.

Children under 10 years old are now required to wear a life jacket while boating in Minnesota.

**It's smart, it's safe, it's the law.*

**Except when boat is anchored and being used as a swimming platform or the child is below decks or in an enclosure or cabin on the craft.*

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

This document is available in alternative formats by calling:

651-296-6157

in MN toll free 1-888-646-6367

TTY 651-296-5484

toll free TTY 1-800-657-3929



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ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has prepared two publications in response to the recommendations of the GREAT I Study and the demand of the boating public for a detailed guide of Minnesota's great rivers. This is one of two river guides that covers the most popular portions of the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers (*see inset on back cover*).

These guides are intended to assist boaters on the rivers and to promote safe and enjoyable use of the resource. They contain detailed maps of the rivers and include frequently requested information on boating facilities, safety aspects and hazards specific to the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers.

Take a few minutes to read through the safety information section in the next few pages. The BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER section on page 6 is especially important to boaters on the Mississippi River. Be informed about submerged wing dams and stump fields. IT COULD SAVE YOUR MOTOR'S LOWER UNIT! Also know the proper boating procedures around towboats as well as locks and dams. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

NOTE:

- ★ A river, by its character, is constantly changing its physical dimensions. The rivers portrayed in this guide are no exception. While the mapping for this guide utilized the latest information, changes may have occurred. It is suggested that the user exercise care when navigating, especially in the backwater areas where changes occur more frequently.
- ★ The information provided on marinas and other facilities is done as a public service for boaters. This is not an endorsement by the State of Minnesota or the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources of the private facilities or services listed in this publication. Facilities are also subject to change.

Using This Guide

Using this river guide is easy. An index of maps and a fold-out legend is located on the back cover. An explanation of each facility is located on the facing or previous page for each map. Facilities are indexed by river mile and side of river (*left or right when going downstream*). Note: State parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles.

BOATING SAFETY

YOU ARE THE KEY TO WATER SAFETY

Considering the large number of participants in Minnesota, water-based recreation is a relatively safe pastime. Still, an average of 20 persons die in boating accidents each year in the state. In addition, many more people are injured and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property damage results from boating mishaps.

Your water fun depends on you, your equipment and other people who, like yourself, enjoy spending leisure time on, in or near the river.

Let's look at your responsibilities:

1. A knowledge of rules and regulations for watercraft use.
2. A knowledge of safety equipment required by law to be on board your watercraft.
3. A knowledge of the operation of your boat.
4. Knowledge of boating hazards unique to large rivers.
5. Responsibility for the actions of all persons on board the watercraft.
6. Acceptance of the fact that everyone has the right - and privilege - to use the river in a proper manner.

FLOAT PLAN

Leave a float plan with someone who will miss you if you do not return on time. A float plan should include the following information: *(See sample float plan on pages 99-100.)*

1. A description of your car and where you will park it.
2. Where you intend to boat.
3. A description of your boat including the registration number.
4. Communication equipment on board and cell phone number or radio call sign if you have one.
5. The names of all persons on board.
6. Safety equipment on board.
7. Estimated time of arrival back home.

8. The latest return time home.
9. Your alternate plans in the event of an emergency or bad weather.
10. The phone number of the county sheriff for the area in which you will be boating.
11. Don't forget to cancel your float plan when you return home.

BOATING ACCIDENTS

Many boating accidents can be avoided if you follow these safe boating practices:

1. Wear your life jacket.
2. Avoid alcohol when boating.
3. Be especially careful around cold water. Hypothermia kills.
4. Turn your navigation lights on at sunset.
5. Carry a fire extinguisher aboard at all times.
6. Be aware of changing weather conditions.
7. Keep a constant lookout for other boats and navigational hazards.

Remember:

- ★ Most boating accidents occur during the day and in clear weather.
- ★ The majority of boat operators involved in accidents have considerable experience in using their craft, but have never taken a formal boating safety course.

Reporting Accidents

Federal and state rules require that any accident, collision, or other casualty involving a motorboat or other vessel, must be reported if it resulted in:

1. a fatality, or
2. personal injury involving loss of consciousness, requiring medical treatment, or resulting in incapacitation for 24 hours or more, or
3. property damage of \$2,000 or more.

In Minnesota, all accidents must be reported to the county sheriff's office where the accident occurred. The addresses and telephone numbers for each county sheriff's office are on pages 95-96 of this publication. In an emergency - call "911."



Photo by Tim Smalley

High speed operation can cause accidents. A single occupant was ejected into the water when he hit a wake while operating his boat at high speed near the Twin Cities. The boat continued “unmanned” towards shore where it hit a swimming raft. The raft launched the boat skyward and it came down on top of a boat lift, causing heavy damage to the boat, lift and dock. Amazingly enough, there were no injuries and alcohol was not involved.

BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER

LOCKS AND DAMS

In the 1930s, the United States Army Corps of Engineers built a series of locks and dams on the Mississippi River to maintain a navigational channel of at least nine feet in depth. Eleven such lock and dam facilities are located on the Mississippi north of the Minnesota-Iowa border. These locks and dams present a special hazard to recreational boaters who are unfamiliar with them. Special precautions must be taken when approaching and going through these navigational structures. In addition to these facilities, there are other dams on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix rivers that have no locks.

What is a lock?

The dams on the Mississippi River create a series of navigational pools. Each dam can be thought of as a step in the river as it descends to the Gulf of Mexico. A lock is used to raise or lower boats to the next pool in the system. A lock is a chamber that may be opened on either end to allow boats to enter or leave. Once a boat is in the lock, water is added to the chamber to raise a boat to the upstream pool or released from the chamber to lower a boat to the downstream pool.

Deceptive Currents

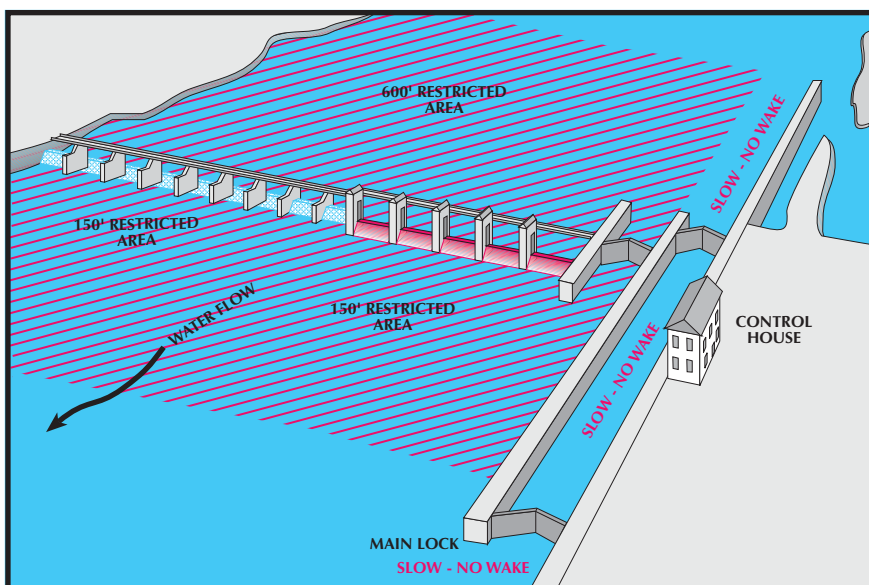
Near each lock and dam the water is turbulent and dangerous. Currents are strong, swift, and deceptive. As water is drawn in and discharged from a lock chamber or drawn over a dam, hydraulic currents are created that are powerful enough to drag a boat and its occupants to the bottom.

Restricted Areas

There are certain restricted areas to protect boaters in the vicinity of locks and dams. The water near each lock and dam has dangerous currents. Boats *may not* enter the following areas:

The area 600 feet upstream and 150 feet downstream from the dam (*including auxiliary locks not in service*).

Additional restrictions may be posted at each dam or spillway. Obey all signs and buoys.



Mississippi River, Lock and Dam No. 6

Locking Through

Upon approaching a lock, a set of traffic signals (the same as you would find at a road intersection) will inform the boater as to the lock's status. See below for a description of these lights and their meaning. Upon approach to the lock, you can contact the lockmaster via channel 14 on your VHF marine radio or simply pull the signal cord on the lock approach wall. You should be aware that the lock may be in use as you approach, locking craft through from the other side, and you may have to wait.

No Light



Lock not in use, approach guide wall and signal for lockage by pulling signal cord.

Red Light



Stand clear, do not approach.

Yellow Light

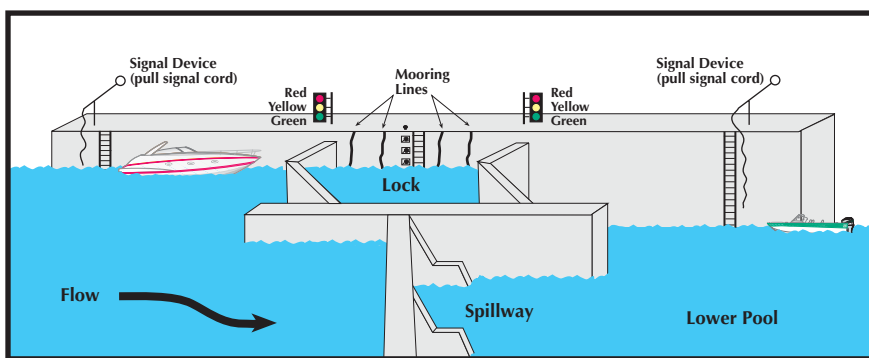


Approach lock under full control.

Green Light



Enter lock.



Upon receiving a green light, proceed slowly into lock and observe mooring lines spaced along lock wall. The lines should be held by hand and not tied to the boat while in the lock chamber. Do not tie a line to a recessed ladder. Insure that passengers remain seated at all times and keep hands inside the boat to avoid the chance of crushed fingers. A life jacket should be worn by any occupants on the open deck of the craft. Do not leave the engine running during lockage, nor climb ladders of the lock structure.

Upon completion of the lock filling or emptying operation and when the gates are fully open, a signal will be given by the lock operator that it is safe to depart the lock. *The signal will be either a P.A. announcement, one short toot of the signal horn or a hand*

signal by the lock operator. Leave the lock at a slow speed assuring that you are well clear of the lock structure before gaining speed. The approaches to the locks are considered no wake areas.

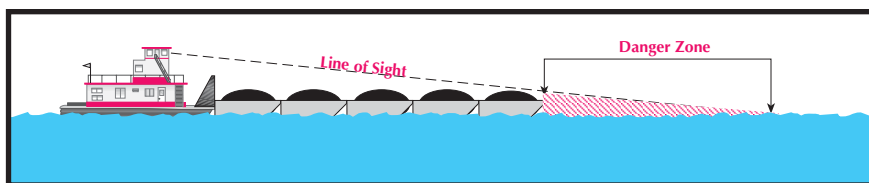
Recreational craft and towboats are locked through on a first-come, first-served basis. Only government craft and regularly scheduled passenger craft have priority. Boaters should be aware that delays in locking through may occur. Lock and dam personnel monitor channels 14 and 16 on the VHF marine radio and can be contacted about waiting periods. There is no charge for locking through.

HAZARDS

Towboats

When encountering a towboat, always obey the following rules:

1. Stay clear of towboats! They usually have the right-of-way over recreational boats and they create strong wakes.
2. Never anchor in their course; it may require a half-mile or more for them to stop.
3. Remember, at night their lights appear far apart compared to small boats.
4. They have a blind area directly in front of the barges and on each side.



5. Stay clear of the stern of the towboats. They may suddenly turn on a burst of power and overturn a small boat.
6. Turn your bow into the wake of barges and boats.
7. When meeting a barge at a bend in the river move to the inside of the bend where possible.

Wing Dams

To help improve the navigability of the Mississippi River by controlling the direction of channel flow, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has placed hundreds of wing dams.

A wing dam is an elongated pile of rocks or concrete which is usually submerged. Because wing dams often lie just below the water surface, they cannot be visually detected and pose a great

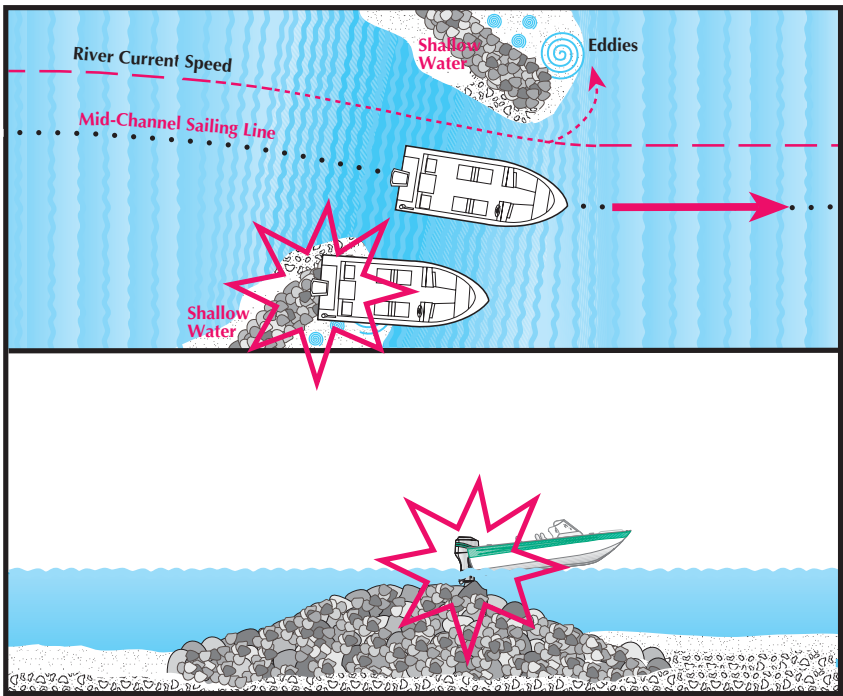
danger to the unwary boater. If you follow these boating practices, however, you can avoid an unwanted encounter with a wing dam.

1. Stay within the main channel, indicated by buoys and markers (*see fold out flap of the back cover*). It is continually dredged and maintained.
2. If approaching shore, proceed slowly from a perpendicular angle.
3. Stay clear of ripples in the water surface; these are a tell-tale sign of a wing dam lying just below.

WARNING!

The dam symbols in this guide show *approximate* locations of the wing or closing dams. *The actual locations may vary.*

Wing Dams Are Not Buoyed!



Top drawing is not to scale

Stump Fields

When the dam system on the Mississippi River was built in the 1930s, many low-lying areas were covered with trees. Although the trees were cut down, many submerged tree stumps still remain. We have shown the *approximate* locations of stump fields on the river

maps; but please remember, whenever you are in a backwater area there is always a chance that you will encounter a stump. Use extra caution in these areas.

Changing Water Levels

Water levels change frequently on the rivers, causing changes in currents that may not be immediately obvious to boaters. High water can produce unpredictable and swift currents and moving debris that may come in the form of logs, timbers, docks and whole trees. Conversely, low water can produce hazards above and below the water's surface (*stump fields, wing dams, etc.*).

BUOYS AND MARKERS

A list of the buoys and markers you will encounter on the river can be found on the fold-out flap of the back cover. A knowledge of them is essential for safe navigation on the river.

All boaters are cautioned not to rely solely on buoys for navigation because of their potential unreliability. U.S. Coast Guard buoys are removed, relocated or established whenever the U.S. Coast Guard determines a change is desirable for the safety of navigation.

While the U.S. Coast Guard makes every reasonable effort to ensure buoys are properly located to serve their intended purpose, they cannot keep all buoys and navigable channels under constant surveillance. Between visits of a Coast Guard buoy tender, it is possible for a channel or obstruction to have shifted, the water depth to have changed, or for a buoy to have moved, sunk, or gone adrift.

Daymarks are square, triangular or diamond-shaped boards (*usually red or green in color*) that are used to mark channels on the large river systems. On the Mississippi they will also indicate the river mileage upstream from Cairo, Illinois on a white board beneath the daymark. They may also be lighted (*green or white lights on green boards and red or white lights on red boards*).

Even with lighted buoys and markers, boating at night should be avoided if at all possible.

VHF-FM MARINE RADIO

Channel 16 is a calling and *distress* channel. Communications on channel 16 should be kept short, limited to initial contact only, unless there is an emergency.

Channel 22A is for non-emergency communications with the U.S. Coast Guard. It is also used by the U.S. Coast Guard to make broadcast notices to mariners.

Locks on the Upper Mississippi River monitor channels 14 & 16. Initial contact with locks should be made on channel 14, which will also be the working channel in most cases.

When important marine events occur, broadcast notices to mariners are issued. These notices are broadcast by U.S. Coast Guard radio stations on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Non-scheduled broadcasts are often made to supplement scheduled broadcasts. U.S. Coast Guard preliminary announcements of broadcasts are made on channel 16 (156.8 MHz) and channel 19 (156.450 MHz) as a secondary channel. The U.S. Coast Guard broadcasts are then given on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Broadcast times for this area are 3:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

For more information on marine radio use, contact the Federal Communications Commission (*website and telephone number are at the end of this guide*).

DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

For drawbridges over the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, the usual sound signal for opening the draw is a prolonged blast (4 to 6 seconds duration) of a whistle or horn, followed by one short blast (one second duration), sounded not more than three seconds after the prolonged blast. This sequence is repeated at intervals until acknowledged by the drawtender. If the draw can be opened immediately, acknowledging signal is one prolonged blast followed by one short blast, sounded not more than 30 seconds after opening signal. If the draw cannot be opened immediately, or if open and must be closed immediately, five short blasts, sounded in rapid succession not more than 30 seconds after the opening signal, shall be repeated at intervals until acknowledged by a signal which has the same meaning from the vessel. Some drawbridges are equipped with VHF marine radios; a list is provided below. Mariners approaching these drawbridges are urged to contact the bridge tender to confirm requests for opening, or to exchange information. Bridges may also have opening schedules to reduce the backup of traffic. These schedules can vary with the hour, day and time of year and are usually posted on the bridge itself. You should factor this possibility into your float plan.

Locations of Drawbridges

St. Croix River	Mile	Call Sign	Channel
Burlington Northern Railroad	0.2	KJC 782	14 & 16
Prescott U.S. Highway 10 Lift	0.3	KD 2829	14 & 7
Hudson Railroad	17.3	KUZ 549	14 & 16
Stillwater Highway Bridge	23.3	WXF 624	20A & 16

Mississippi River	Mile	Call Sign	Channel
Hastings Railroad	813.7	KTD 538	14 & 16
Beltline Railroad	835.7	KUZ 544	14 & 16
Chicago & Northwestern Railroad	839.2	KUZ 546	14 & 16
Omaha Railroad	841.2	KUZ 545	14 & 16

REGULATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

(This is not a complete summary of regulations. Rules and laws are subject to change. A current copy of federal, Minnesota and Wisconsin regulations should be consulted. Unless noted, all rules summarized below are from Minnesota and were in effect in 2010.)

REGISTRATION (LICENSING)

All watercraft, except wild-rice boats and duckboats used during the appropriate season, non-motorized boats nine feet or less in length, and seaplanes, are required to be licensed by the DNR. This rule does not apply if the watercraft is licensed by another state, federal agency or foreign country. All canoes used in Minnesota must be registered either in Minnesota or the user's home state.

To obtain or renew a watercraft license, go to the nearest deputy registrar's office (*where you license your car*) or the DNR's License Center (*address is at the back of this guide*) or online at:

www.wildlifelicense.com/mn/

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Personal Flotation Devices - PFD

The U.S. Coast Guard estimates that 80 percent of the boating fatalities in the country could have been prevented if boaters were wearing their life jackets. This is especially important in boats less than 20 feet in length. The most common boating fatalities are capsizing and falling overboard. Minnesota rules require that:

- ★ On all boats, a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved wearable device (*Type I, II, III or V*) must be worn or readily accessible for each person on board as well as any persons being towed on water skis or similar devices. Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft (*Jet Ski, Sea Doo etc.*) must WEAR a Type I, II, III or V USCG approved device (*see pages 16-18*).
- ★ In addition, on all boats 16 feet or more in length, except canoes and kayaks, at least one U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved Type IV throwable device must be immediately available aboard the craft. Type IV devices include buoyant cushions, ring buoys and horseshoe buoys.

- ★ All flotation devices must be U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved and bear the USCG approval number. The devices must be in serviceable condition and, if wearable, must be of the correct size for the person who is or would be using it.

- ★ As of 2005, Minnesota law requires that children less than 10 years of age wear a PFD when aboard a boat that is underway, unless they are below decks or in an enclosed cabin. There are also exemptions for commercial vessels and also any boat at anchor when swimming or diving activities are taking place.

Lights

All watercraft must be equipped with the navigation lights required by law when operating between sunset and sunrise. These lights are to warn others and in many cases indicate what the watercraft is doing.

Boaters should check the state or federal regulations for the lighting requirements for their craft.

Fire Extinguishers



All watercraft using motors *should* carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. Both state and federal laws require fire extinguishers on watercraft carrying or using fuel or other flammable fluid in any enclosure of the boat. Check the state or federal regulations for specific requirements.

Signaling Systems

A whistle or horn is required on all motorboats 16 feet or longer. Check the current regulations for exact requirements.

Other Desirable Equipment

- ★ Anchor and line
- ★ Flashlight
- ★ Marine radio
- ★ Paddle, oars or auxiliary outboard
- ★ Bilge pump or bailing devices
- ★ A tool kit and spare parts (including an extra propeller)
- ★ Battery box or non-conductive cover for terminals (required by State of Wisconsin)
- ★ Fenders
- ★ First aid kit
- ★ Cell phone

RULES OF THE ROAD

There are traffic rules afloat, as well as on our highways. Common sense tells us we should know what to do when passing, meeting and/or crossing the path of another craft. These rules are simple and they provide uniform patterns of passing and direction that otherwise would not exist.

Port to Port or Head to Head

Each watercraft must pass on the port or left side of the other when meeting port to port or head to head.

Starboard to Starboard

When courses of two boats are so far on the starboard or right of each other as not to be considered a head to head meeting, they may pass on the starboard side of each other.

Crossing

When two boats approach each other at right angles, the boat on the starboard (*right*) side has the right-of-way. The stand-on boat must hold course and speed while the give-way boat must keep clear and pass behind the boat with the right-of-way.

Overtaking

In an overtaking situation, the boat being overtaken has the right-of-way and must hold course and speed, even if the overtaking boat is a sailboat.

Non-Motorized Boats

Except when passing, sailboats and non-motorized craft have the right-of-way over motorized watercraft. Steer clear of them, and remember that your wake can cause them trouble.

Commercial Vessels

Small boats should not insist on the right-of-way when approaching large commercial vessels, which are limited in maneuverability.

Emergency Craft and Move Over Law (New)

- ★ All watercraft will yield right-of-way to an authorized watercraft displaying a red or blue flashing light.



- ★ When approaching and passing a law enforcement watercraft with its emergency lights activated, the operator of a watercraft must safely move the watercraft away from the law enforcement watercraft and maintain a slow-no wake speed while within 150 feet of the law enforcement watercraft.

At Night

At night, running lights indicate which boat has the right-of-way. The green light is on the starboard (*right*) side and a red light on the port (*left*) side of the craft. If the red and white lights are the only ones visible, then that boat is stand-on and has the right-of-way.

Whistle Signals

- 1 BLAST** - passing on the port (*left*) side.
- 2 BLASTS** - passing on the starboard (*right*) side.
- 3 BLASTS** - operating in reverse.
- 5 BLASTS** - DANGER - may be used to indicate passage is not safe.

WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT

See the chart on page 17 to determine Minnesota's age and permit requirements. Permits may be obtained by contacting the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Boat and Water Safety Section at:

MN DNR Boat & Water Safety
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
Boat & Water Safety (651) 259-5400
DNR Information: (651) 296-6157 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-888-646-6367
www.mndnr.gov/boatingsafety

Wisconsin also has permit and age requirements for motorboat operators, including some adults. More information on Wisconsin's boating education requirements can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR (*address located on page 22 of this guide*).

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

What is a personal watercraft? Sometimes known as **Jet Skis, Wave Runners**, PWCs, etc., a personal watercraft is defined by law as a motorboat that is: 1) powered by an inboard motor powering a water jet pump or by an outboard or propeller-driven motor; and 2) designed to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the craft, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside a motorboat.

All personal watercraft are considered motorboats and therefore, any regulations that govern other motorboats (*such as fishing boats, cabin cruisers, etc.*), also govern personal watercraft.

Personal Watercraft Laws

In summary, the law requires that:

- ★ Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must **wear** a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V personal flotation device (PFD or life jacket).
- ★ Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.
- ★ A personal watercraft rules decal issued by DNR needs to be on the craft in full view of the operator.
- ★ Personal watercraft must travel at slow - no wake speed (5mph or less) within 150 feet of non-motorized boats, shore (*unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water*), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.
- ★ If you tow a person on water skis, or any other device, there must be an additional person on board the personal watercraft to act as an observer. (*The observer does not have to be*

facing backward.) The skier/kneeboarder etc. must also be wearing a PFD or there must be one on board the personal watercraft for the skier. Factory-installed or factory-specified rearview mirrors are allowed instead of an observer when pulling a skier or other device (*tube, kneeboard, etc.*). The mirrors must be specified by the personal watercraft manufacturer. After-market mirrors, stick-on mirrors, motorcycle mirrors etc., do not qualify for the observer exemption.

- ★ If the machine is equipped by the manufacturer with a

(continued on next page)

Motorboat Operator Age Laws in Minnesota*

Type of Craft and Age	As of 2010
Motorboats (Except personal watercraft - see below) Less than 12 years old	1. 25 hp or less - no restriction, 2. more than 25 thru 75 hp - must have someone at least 21 on board in reach of controls**, 3. over 75 hp - cannot operate, even with adult on board
12-17 years old	1. 25 hp or less - no restriction, 2. over 25 hp - must have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ a watercraft operator's permit, <i>or</i> ★ someone at least 21 on board in reach of controls**
Personal Watercraft (PWC, Jet Skis etc.) regardless of horsepower	
Less than 13 years old	Cannot operate, even with adult on board.
13 years old	Must either have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ someone at least 21 on board, <i>or</i> ★ a watercraft operator's permit and be in visual supervision by someone at least 21
14-17 years old	Must either have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ a watercraft operator's permit, <i>or</i> ★ someone at least 21 on board

* *this is only a summary of the legislation and not a copy of the actual law*

** *for purposes of the BWI law, both the youthful operator and the supervising adult are considered to be in actual physical control of the motorboat*

lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, it must be attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.

- ★ You may not operate a personal watercraft if any part of the spring-loaded throttle system has been removed or tampered with so it interferes with the return-to-idle system.
- ★ You may not chase or harass wildlife.
- ★ You may not travel through emergent or floating vegetation at greater than slow - no wake speed.
- ★ You may not operate a personal watercraft in a manner that unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb or property.
- ★ You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.
- ★ You may not operate a personal watercraft while facing backward.

ENFORCEMENT

Whenever you are boating or fishing on the rivers in this book you are subject to laws and rules similar to those in effect on streets and highways. Enforcement of state regulations is the responsibility of Minnesota conservation officers, Wisconsin DNR conservation wardens, and county sheriffs' deputies. You are also subject to federal laws which are enforced by the U.S. Coast Guard, National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ALCOHOL & DWI

Alcohol will influence your balance, coordination, vision, judgment and reaction time. The use of alcohol is involved in about a third of all the boating deaths that occur in Minnesota and Wisconsin. This includes not only the spectacular collisions, but the lone angler who drowns after falling out of their boat on a peaceful backwater.

Operating a motorboat while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or other illegal chemical is unlawful. Operators who are impaired may be required to take tests by an enforcement officer to determine their sobriety.

Penalties for DWI or refusal to submit to a chemical test on a motorboat can include any or all of the following:

- ★ a fine
- ★ a jail sentence
- ★ loss of your motorboat operating privileges
- ★ loss of your driver's license
- ★ loss of your car or truck license plates
- ★ forfeiture of your motorboat and boat trailer

WAKE DAMAGE AND EROSION

Watercraft operators are responsible for damage to property, shoreline and moored boats caused by their wake. Wake damage is more likely during periods of high water with normal operation. A combination of factors should be considered when assessing the possibility of damage caused by your wake including speed, draft and nearness to the bank. Operating out of the normal navigation channel also increases the likelihood of wake damage.

Research

Research done on the river by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) near Red Wing from 1989 through 1992 revealed that high energy wakes from motorboats can greatly accelerate natural erosion, *causing the banks to erode by as much as two feet per year on the inside of a riverbend and up to 14 feet on the outside of the riverbend over a three-year period!* This erosion was most common during periods when the river was at least three feet above the normal low water level. The study used locations and techniques to reflect the specific effects attributable to recreational boat wakes, realizing that the river is also subject to commercial barge traffic, as well as the natural action of waves and currents. As an example, a parallel channel in the same area of the river, which receives very little recreational boat traffic, did not show the same accelerated bank erosion. *More information on this area can be found in the "Mississippi River Guide."*

This erosion has the potential for serious consequences for river ecology, fishing and boating resulting in a loss of shoreland, increased sediment in the water and a loss of trees and vegetation along the river.

The Solution

As a boater, *you* are the key to reducing shoreline erosion when you are on the river by reducing the speed and resulting wake from your boat, especially when the water level is above normal. To reduce your wake, you first need to understand that most modern power boats operate in three different speed zones:

- **Displacement Speed** - This is the slowest speed for most motorboats and occurs when the boat operates with the bow down at slow speeds resulting in very little wake.
- **Transition Speed** - When power is applied, the bow rises and the engine is using the maximum amount of fuel as it attempts to get the boat up on *plane* (if the boat has a planing hull). It also creates the largest wake, since the boat is now plowing through the water.

- **Planing Speed** - When a boat reaches planing speed the bow drops, fuel consumption is less than transition speed and only a small portion of the hull contacts the water (*which creates less of a wake than transition speed*). Note: many cruisers and houseboats cannot reach this speed.

The Future

If all boaters become aware of the wakes their boats create and take action to reduce them when necessary, shoreline erosion can be reduced and conditions should improve. If this does not occur voluntarily, however, mandatory speed and wake restrictions may have to be placed on the river.

POLLUTION

Trash Disposal

Many people receive cuts and other injuries from trash thrown in our rivers and on shorelines. This same trash can injure wildlife through cuts, entanglements, strangulation, suffocation and digestive disorders. Throwing trash in the water is against the law. A fine, jail sentence, or other penalty can be imposed on anyone who is convicted of this offense. Remember, "If you carried it in, carry it back!"



Marine Toilets

Both federal and state laws prohibit the discharge of raw sewage from boats. Minnesota law requires that sewage from marine toilets be retained through the use of a U.S. Coast Guard Certified Type III holding tank which is pumped out at dockside, or a portable device which retains waste on board for disposal on shore (*there is one exception noted below*). Pumpout locations are listed with the information on marinas in this publication. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations (*which preempt state law*) allow the use of U.S. Coast Guard Certified Type I or Type II treatment/discharge devices only on the Mississippi River below Lock and Dam No. 2 (*Hastings*).

FINAL NOTE

This discussion of rules and regulations is by no means complete. Reference should be made to the current state, federal and local regulations before you embark on your first cruise. The *Minnesota Boating Guide* is a summary of laws and rules and is available from the Minnesota DNR or a Minnesota county sheriff. Wisconsin regulations can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR (see page 94 for MN DNR and page 22 for the WI DNR addresses.)

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Minnesota's lakes and rivers offer a wealth of canoeing, boating and fishing opportunities.

Public Access/Canoe and Boating Routes

The DNR Canoe and Boating Route Program provides maps for 24 rivers. The free maps show access points, campsites, rest areas and portages. Hazards such as dams and waterfalls are marked, and areas of rapids are shown. A brief description of the river lets canoeists know what to expect along the way.

The DNR also provides a river level reporting service from April 1 to October 31. Reports are updated every Thursday and are available after 2:00 p.m. Canoeists can call the DNR Information Center to find out the condition of the canoe and boating routes at (651) 296-6157 or toll free in Minnesota 1-888-646-6367, TDD: (651) 296-5484 or toll free in Minnesota 1-800-657-3929. The information is also posted on the DNR web site, listed below.

Minnesota DNR accesses are usually open 24 hours a day. No fee is charged for their use, nor is there a fee for any of the accesses shown on the county access maps. Note: State parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles and may not be open 24 hours a day.

For public access and canoe and boat route maps and brochures contact:

DNR Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
(651) 296-6157
or in MN toll free
1-888-646-6367

Telecommunications device
for the deaf: (651) 296-5484
or in MN toll free:
1-800-657-3929

DNR web site: www.mndnr.gov

Adopt-a-River Program

This program encourages Minnesota volunteers to "adopt" a section of a river, lake, ravine, pond, ditch or wetland to ensure its long-term health by doing at least one annual trash cleanup.

DNR Parks and Trails
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4052
(651) 296-6157
DNR web site: www.mndnr.gov/adoptriver



Boat and Water Safety Program

One of the boat and water safety program's primary responsibilities is education. Using brochures, boating courses, pamphlets, billboards, television and radio public service announcements, media interviews and news releases, the public is kept informed of boating safety issues.

DNR Boat and Water Safety Section
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
(651) 259-5400
DNR web site: www.mndnr.gov/boatingsafety

Division of Enforcement

The Division's responsibilities on the river include enforcement of fish and wildlife regulations, boating safety laws, water-use regulations and water pollution laws. DNR conservation officers also conduct firearm, snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety training programs; enforce snowmobile and ATV laws; and patrol state parks and campgrounds.

DNR Division of Enforcement
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4047
(651) 259-5222
DNR web site: www.mndnr.gov/enforcement

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Wisconsin DNR is also involved with enforcement, boating safety, pollution control, boat licensing, and information and education. For more information about Wisconsin DNR programs contact:

Wisconsin DNR
West Central Region
1300 West Clairemont Avenue
Box 4001
Eau Claire, WI 54702
(715) 839-3700
DNR web site: www.dnr.state.wi.us

VIOLATIONS

Report boating law violations by calling **911**. Report fish and wildlife violations by calling Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource conservation officers at:

Minnesota 1-800-652-9093
(Turn in Poachers)

Wisconsin 1-800-TIP-WDNR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Department of the Interior, manages a wide range of areas throughout the United States to conserve natural, cultural and recreational resources while providing for their enjoyment today in such a manner that leaves them unimpaired for future generations. The NPS manages two units of the National Park System in and near the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area, the upper 27 miles of the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway (NSR) and the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area along the Mississippi River.

The Lower St. Croix NSR was added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1972. The Riverway covers river and lake-like environments, along with a narrow shoreline corridor, for 52 miles (84 kilometers) from the St. Croix Falls dam to Prescott, Wisconsin, where the river joins the Mississippi. It is jointly managed by the National Park Service, the MN Department of Natural Resources, and the WI Department of Natural Resources to protect and enhance the lower St. Croix River's scenic beauty and outstanding recreational opportunities. In the section of river covered by this guide, the NPS has direct management responsibility of the Riverway from the north city limits of Stillwater, MN to the hydroelectric dam at Taylors Falls/St. Croix Falls.

The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area was designated by Congress in 1988. It covers the Mississippi River and adjoining shore areas from the mouth of the Crow River at Dayton to the Goodhue County line southeast of Hastings. The National Park Service provides interpretive and information programs about the Mississippi and cooperates with local and state agencies in managing the river's scenic and recreational characteristics.

Lower St. Croix

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
Headquarters Visitor Center
401 North Hamilton Street
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
Visitor Information (715) 483-2274
or e-mail: SACN_Interpretation@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/sacn

Mississippi River

National Park Service
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area
111 E. Kellogg Blvd., Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55101-1256
(651) 290-4160
e-mail: miss_info@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/miss

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, located along the Minnesota River, is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and is one of only a few urban wildlife refuges in the nation, where wild coyotes, bald eagles, badgers and beavers live.

Within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, you'll find the Visitor Center, Bass Ponds, Long Meadow Lake, Black Dog Preserve, Wilkie Wetlands, the Bloomington Ferry (site of the first Minnesota River crossing), and Upgrala (2,400 acres of lake, marsh, fields and forested riverbanks below the Eden Prairie bluffs).

Individual refuge areas may have regulations and private land within their boundaries. Information, maps and current regulations governing public use, are available from the Visitor Center or:

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and
Wetland Management District
3815 American Blvd. East
Bloomington, MN 55425
Phone / TTY (952) 854-5900
fax (612) 725-3279
e-mail: minnesotavalley@fws.gov
1-800-344-WILD U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov

NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE SIGNS

Voluntary closed areas are established in some portions of the refuge to protect nesting and migratory wildlife.

Area behind sign closed to any hunting, trapping or camping during regular duck hunting season. Boaters and other recreation users are encouraged to stay out of these areas during the fall waterfowl hunting season, so birds may rest and feed undisturbed.



Refuge Boundary Sign — Entry For Authorized Activities Only

U.S. COAST GUARD

The Coast Guard, the nation's lead agency in boating safety, has three primary roles on the rivers: 1) to ensure waterway safety &

safe river commerce, including the inspection of ports and commercial vessels for safety, 2) the maintenance of aids to navigation, and 3) the protection of the environment, including pollution prevention, and the response to oil spills or other marine incidents. All portions of the Minnesota, Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers fall into the Eighth U.S. Coast Guard District - Sector Upper Mississippi River (this sector includes all of the Twin Cities Metro Area and the Mississippi River to Cairo, IL):

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
Non-emergency (314) 269-2500
24 hour emergency 1-866-360-3386
or contact using marine channel 16 - 24 hrs-a-day.

www.uscg.mil/d8/sectumr

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers public courses in boating safety and seamanship. They are taught by experienced Auxiliary members and the only charge is for course materials. These courses are usually given in the winter and spring.

www.cgaux.org

U.S. POWER SQUADRONS

U.S. Power Squadrons is a private, non-profit organization dedicating themselves to boating and boating safety. The Power Squadrons offer free public boating courses.

www.usps.org

HELP ON THE RIVER

EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY

Emergency (illness, injury, accident, etc.) dial **911** on your cell phone or send a distress call on Channel 16 of your marine radio. Remember to give your position and the nature of the emergency and be prepared to stay on the line or have someone stand by the radio.

Non-Emergency (out of fuel, engine failure, etc.) first try to summon help from a passing boat or call one of the marinas in this publication for assistance. Law enforcement craft may not be available to respond in non-emergency situations. If an officer or deputy is able to assist, they may only be able to tow you to the closest safe mooring or marina where you can call for or obtain mechanical assistance.

St. Croix River



52.2R

Lions Park, Lions Club of Taylors Falls

concrete plank ramp, picnic shelter, restroom



52.2L

Lions Park, Lions Club of St. Croix Falls

concrete plank ramp (donation fee), dock shore fishing structure, grills, picnicking, picnic shelters, playground equipment, bench swings, restroom, trails

51.7L

St. Croix Falls

food & lodging, www.saintcroixriver.com
Polk County Sheriff emergency 911 or
non-emergency (715) 485-8300

51.3R

Taylors Falls

food & lodging, www.taylorsfallschamber.org
Chisago County Sheriff emergency 911 or
non-emergency (651) 257-4100



51.5-
48.4L

Interstate State Park, Wisconsin DNR

concrete slab ramp, camping (fee), picnic tables and grills, restrooms, drinking water, no overnight mooring, Wisconsin State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required



parking, one trail by river, restroom
(715) 483-3747, www.dnr.state.wi.us



51.1-
49.6R

Interstate State Park, Minnesota DNR

camping (fee), concrete plank ramp, canoe rental, restrooms, drinking water, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required



toilets, showers, picnic area & shelter, visitor center
(651) 465-5711, www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



47.8R

Franconia Township

earth ramp - small boats only, shallow water
Chisago County Sheriff emergency 911 or
non-emergency (651) 257-4100

NOTE: Since 1999, the use of personal watercraft (*Jet Skis, Wave Runners, etc.*) has been prohibited by the National Park Service north of the MN DNR Boomsite Access - at appx. River Mile 24.8.

NOTE: Due to the possible spread of zebra mussels into the upper reaches of the St. Croix, the National Park Service has restricted most boat traffic originating downstream from passing the check-

point near the Arcola High Bridge (Canadian National Railroad) - mile 28.6. Boaters may wish to check the National Park Service's St. Croix website www.nps.gov/sacn for more up-to-date information.

Slow speed zone

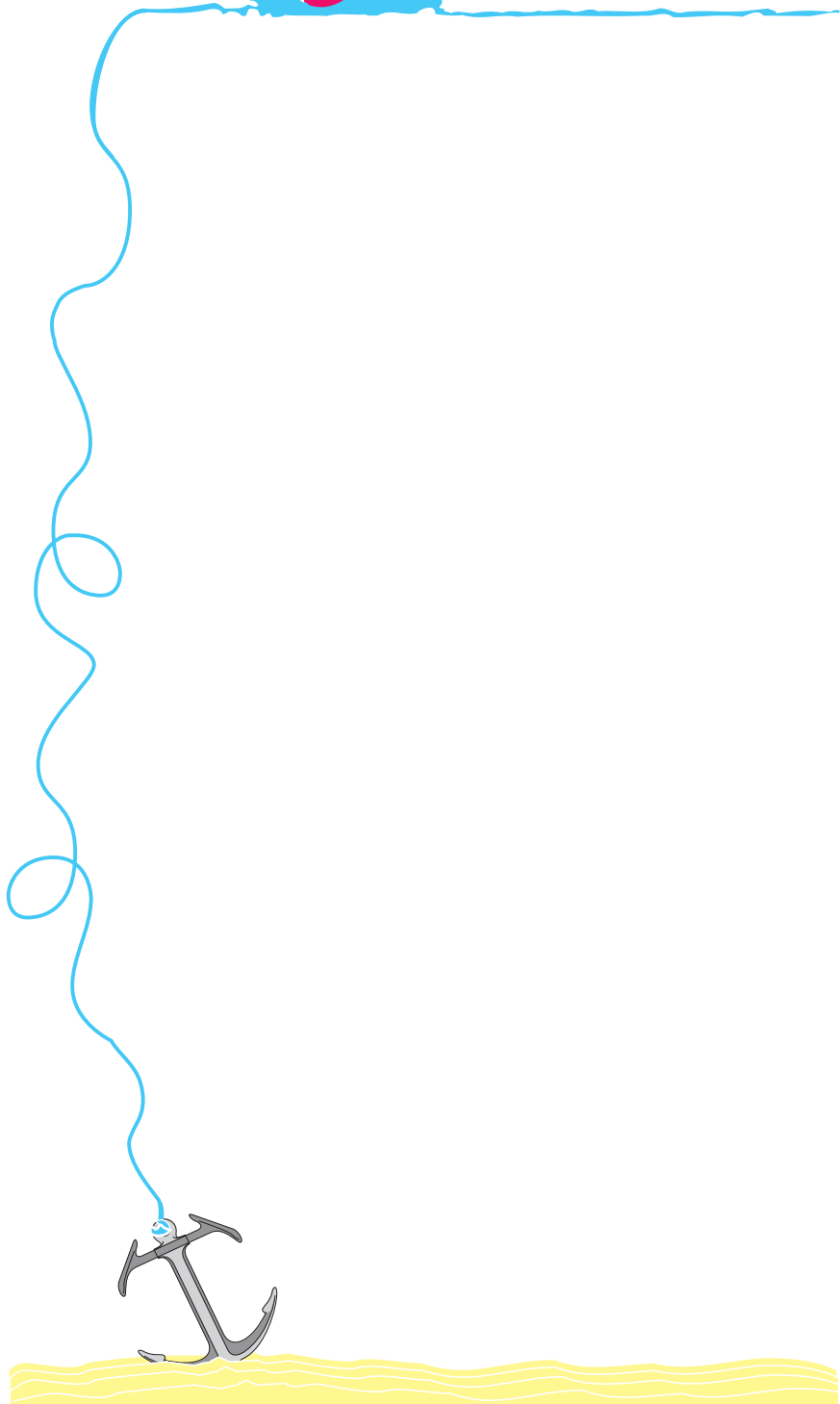
A special water surface use regulation is enforced on the St. Croix River between the Taylors Falls dam and the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River. This area is designated as a *"slow speed zone"* where motorboat operation must be restricted to operating *"at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal."* Please obey all rules.

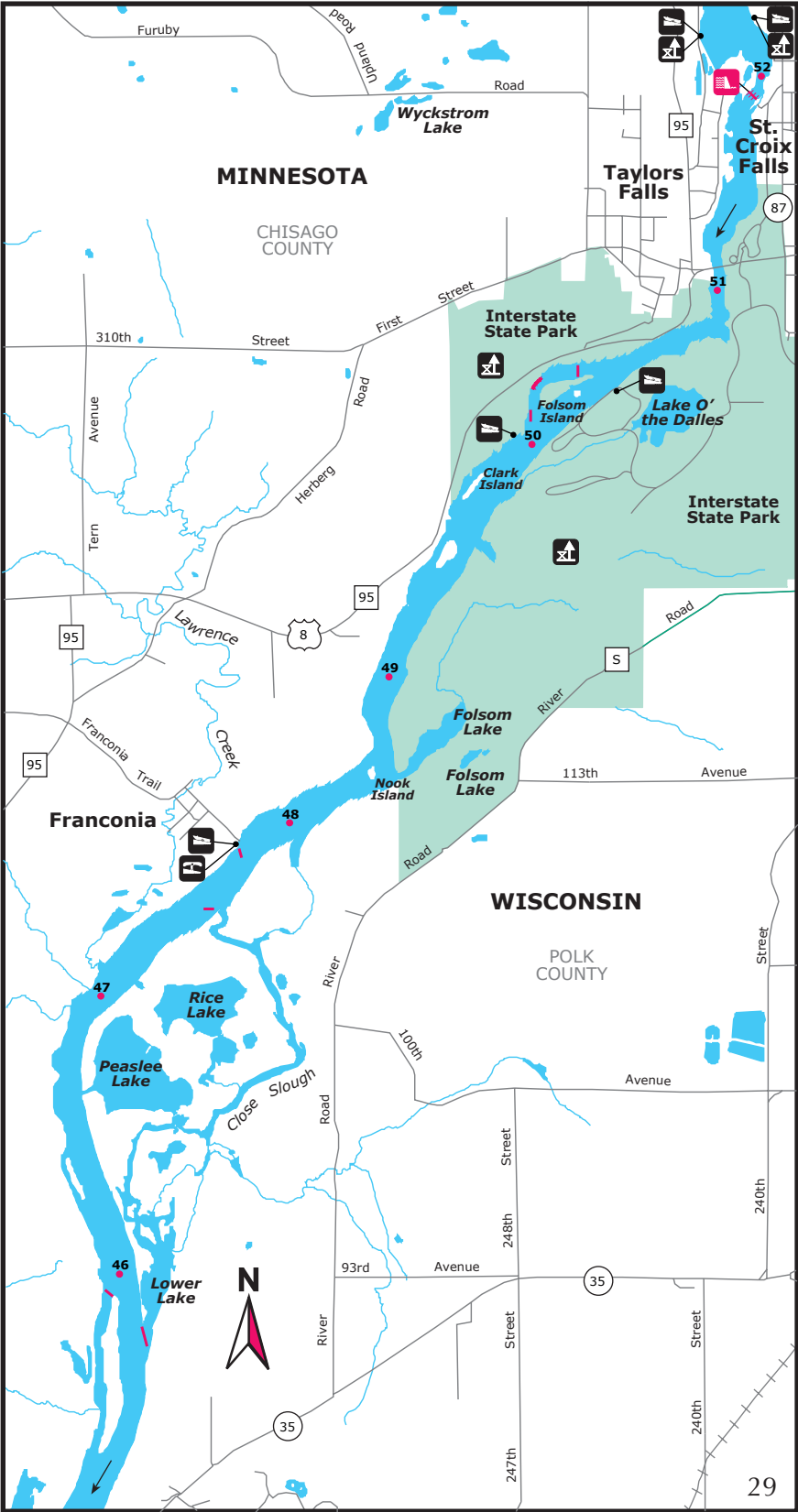
There is also a "slow - no wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a "slow - no wake" restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.



Boater's Notes





- 44.7L** **Osceola**
*food, lodging, www.saintcroixriver.com
Polk County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (715) 485-8300*



- 44.4R** **Osceola Public Access, National Park Service**
*concrete ramps, picnic area, restrooms, two
picnic shelters, drinking water*



- 44.1R** **Fishing Pier, National Park Service and
Minnesota DNR**
pier fishing



- 38.2R** **Log House Landing, New Scandia Township**
earth ramp, canoe & small boats only

NOTE: Since 1999, the use of personal watercraft (*Jet Skis, Wave Runners, etc.*) has been prohibited by the National Park Service north of the MN DNR Boomsite Access - at appx. River Mile 24.8.

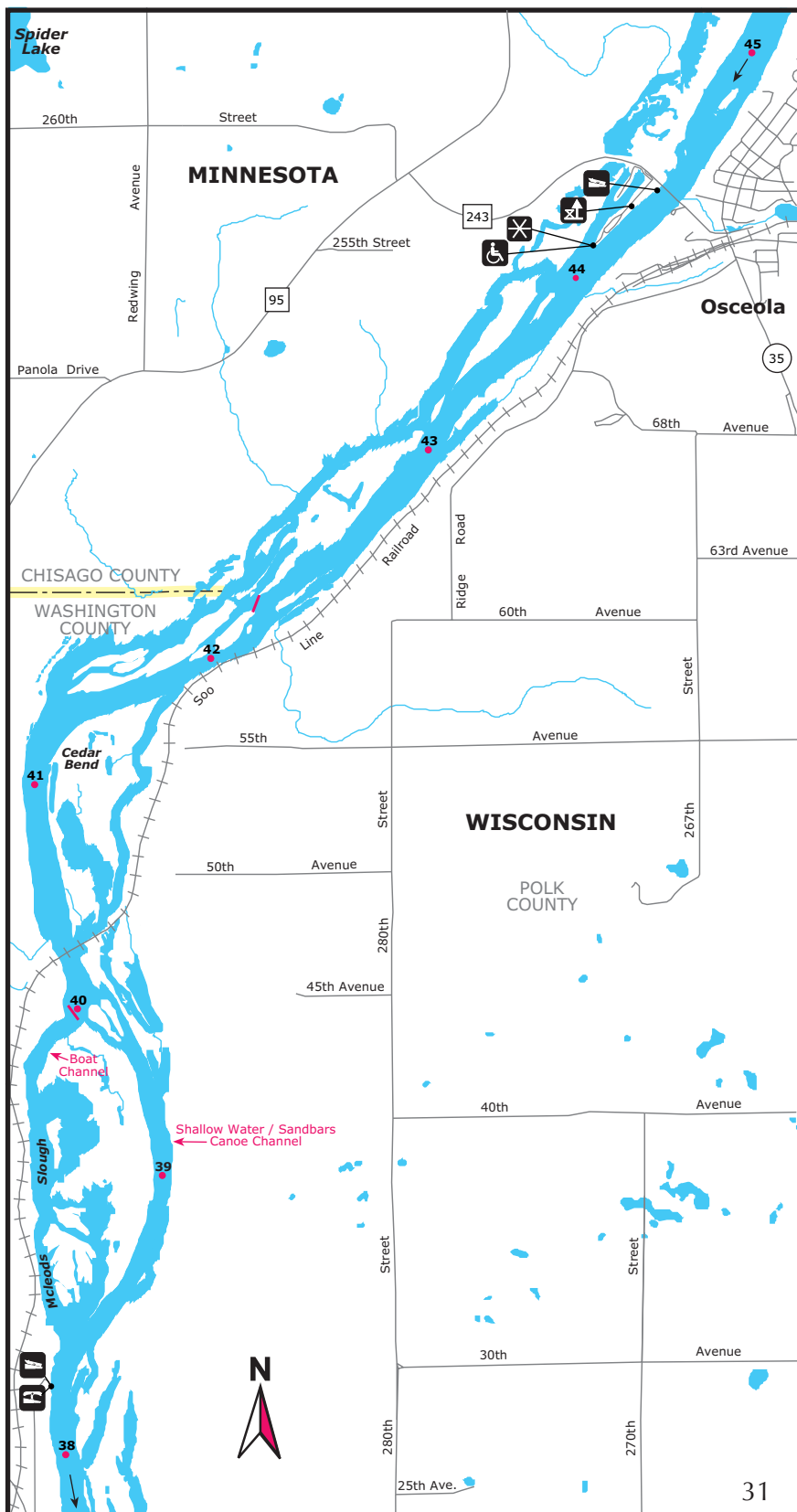
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Slow speed zone

A special water surface use regulation is enforced on the St. Croix River between the Taylors Falls dam and the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River. This area is designated as a "slow speed zone" where motorboat operation must be restricted to operating "at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal." Please obey all rules.

There is also a "slow - no wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a "slow - no wake" restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.



St. Croix River



36.5
34.9R



William O'Brien State Park, Minnesota DNR
camping (fee), picnicking, cement slab ramp, canoe rental, restrooms, drinking water, fishing pier, trail along river bank, parking, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required (651) 433-0500, www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



34.6L



Somerset Landing, Somerset Township/National Park Service
gravel ramp, restrooms



34.5R

Marine Landing, Private
gravel ramp (private - not for public use), open air restaurant (open to public, call for hours) (651) 433-2864

34.3R

Marine on St. Croix
*food, www.saintcroixriver.com
Washington County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 439-9381*



34.2R

Marine Public Landing, Marine on St. Croix
carry-in access (road not open to vehicles, but you can carry your canoe to the river.)

NOTE: Since 1999, the use of personal watercraft (*Jet Skis, Wave Runners, etc.*) has been prohibited by the National Park Service north of the MN DNR Boomsite Access - at appx. River Mile 24.8.

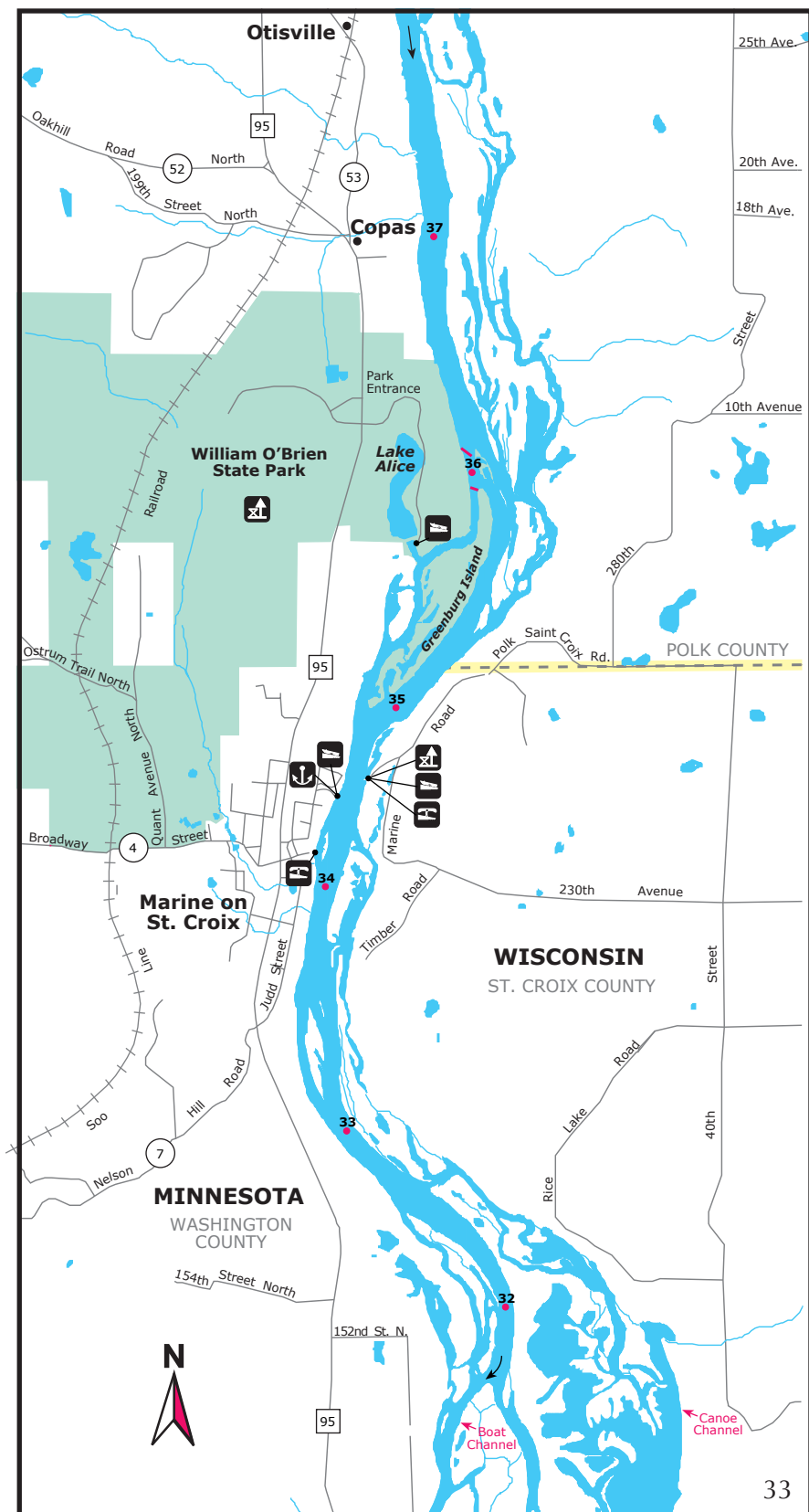
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Slow speed zone

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There is also a "slow - no wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a "slow - no wake" restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.



30.4-
30.1

Arcola Sandbar

boaters should use caution



25.4R

St. Croix Boomsite Recreation area, Minnesota DNR

pet exercise area, fire ring, restrooms, walking paths, picnic area & grills, drinking water, (steps to climb from river to top of cliff to reach park area)



24.9R

Boomsite Marina, Private

*slip rental (651) 459-2030, fax (651) 769-0540
www.boomsitemarina.com*

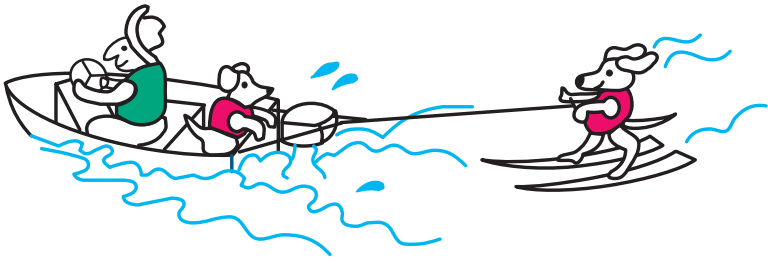
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No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (*indicated with red hatch marks on map*) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour." To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

There is also a "slow - no wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers. When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a "slow - no wake" restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.

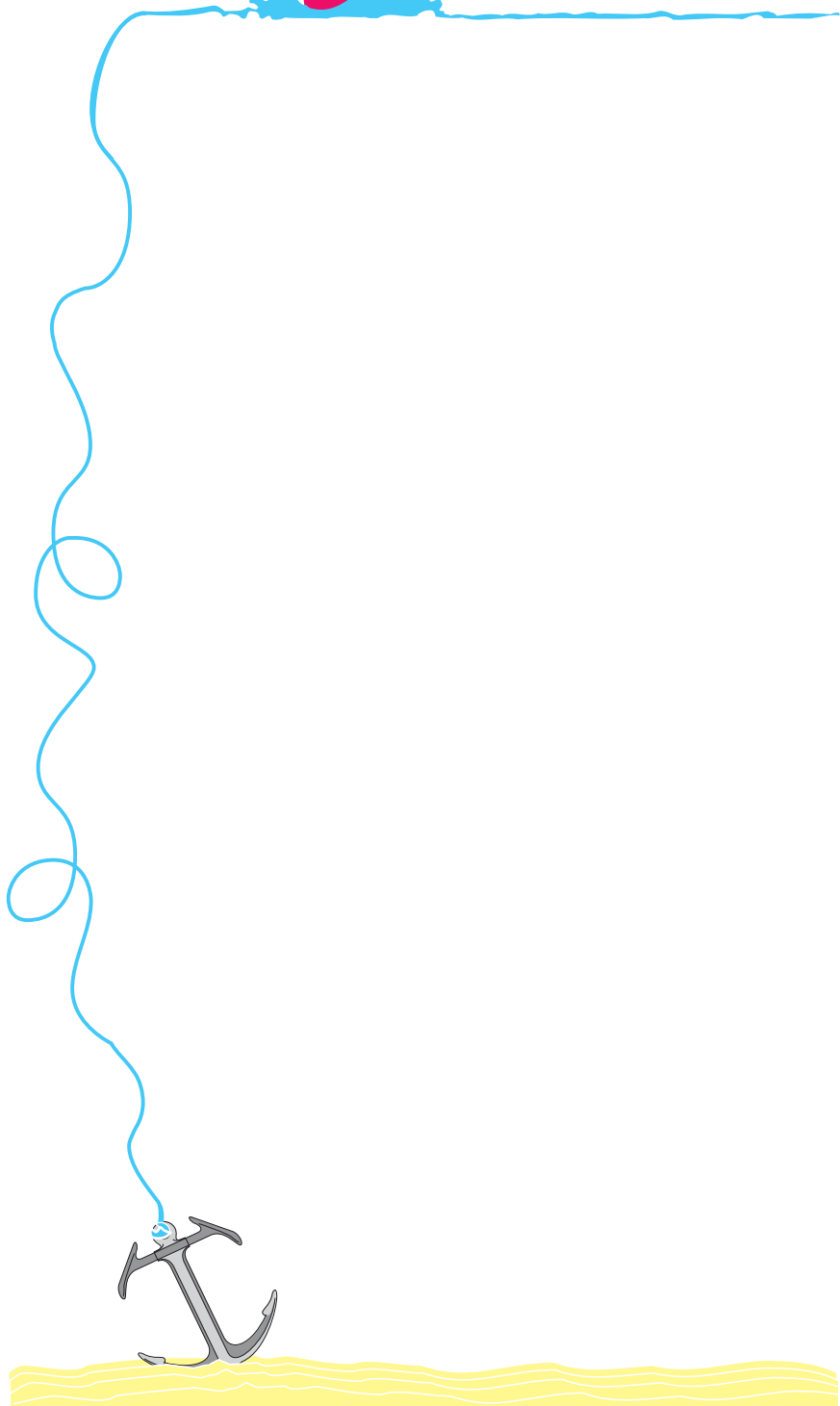


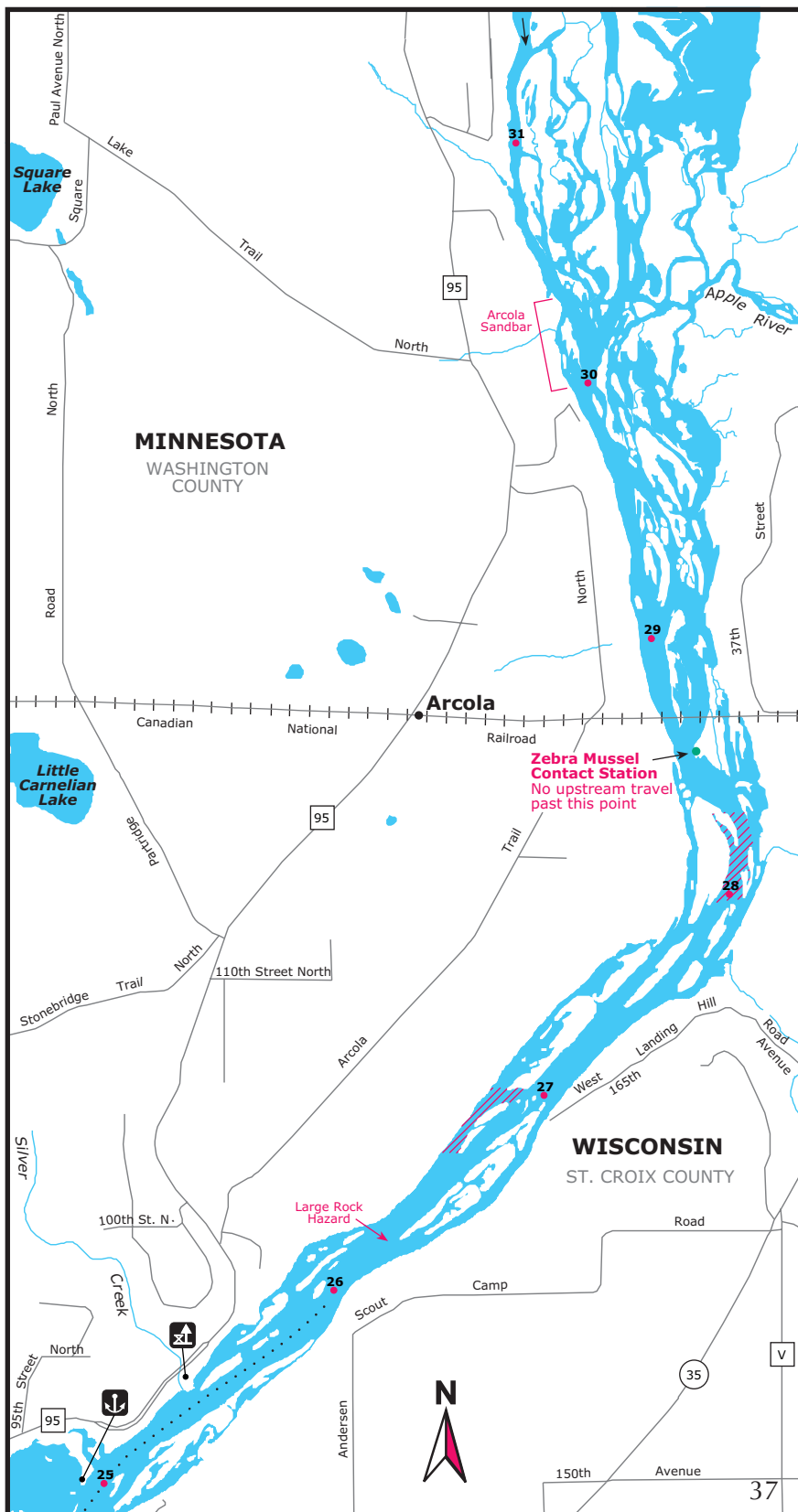
Restrictions on Boats Pulling Skiers, Tubes or Other Devices on the Lower St. Croix River

You may not tow water skiers, tubes or similar devices:

- 1.** Anywhere on the Lower St. Croix between sunset and sunrise the following day,
- 2.** In any of the **slow speed or slow - no wake** zones, except that in the 100 - foot shore zone a boat may launch or land a skier, tube or other device by the most direct route to open water,
- 3.** From May 15th through September 15th, inclusive, after noon on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays in the area from the Arcola Sandbar (approximately river mile 31.0) to the end of the nine-foot navigation channel, north of Stillwater (approximately at river mile 24.5).

Boater's Notes







24.8R

St. Croix Boomsite Public Access, Minnesota DNR

concrete plank ramp, restroom (OK to launch or land a personal watercraft at this site. Personal watercraft are prohibited upstream.)



ramp, parking, toilet

24.5

Upstream limit of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this point channel depth is not maintained. Boaters should be cautious.



24.5R

Wolf Marine, Private

dockage, 24 hr. fuel, no public launches, pumpout, salvage, restrooms, ship's store, transient dockage when available, showers, no public laundry (651) 439-2341, fax (651) 439-3494

www.wolfmarine.net



24.3R

Evans Marina, Private

ramp (fee)

24.2-

22.6R

Stillwater area

food, lodging, www.saintcroixriver.com
Washington County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 439-9381



23.5R

Stillwater Marina, Private

fuel, haul out & travel lift, pumpouts, slips (17'-75'), boat rental, new boat sales brokerage, restaurant, restrooms, full service and parts dealer, ship's store (651) 439-5526, fax (651) 430-9503

www.stillwateryachtclub.com



23.2R

Stillwater Municipal Boat Docks, Private

limited concessions, temporary dockage (651) 430-1234



23.2R

Lowell Park, City of Stillwater

23.1R

restrooms, picnicking



22.2R

Port of Sunnyside Marina, Private

temporary dockage, fuel, haul out, pumpouts, restrooms, full service, ship's store (651) 439-2118

www.sunnysidemarina.org

20.7R

18.9R

Bayport area

food, lodging, www.saintcroixriver.com
Washington County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 439-9381

Andersen Bay, St. Croix River



20.2R

Bayport 4th Avenue Ramp, City of Bayport
blacktop ramp

St. Croix River



19.8R

Lakeside Park, City of Bayport
*grills, picnic area, 4 picnic shelters (electricity),
restrooms, drinking water*



19.8R

Beach House Marina, Private
*concrete ramp (fee), self service dry dock lot
(651) 275-0229, fax (651) 439-2147
www.beachhousemarina.com*



19.6R

River Park Marina, Private
*slip rental, (651) 459-2030, fax (651) 769-0540
www.riverparkmarina.com*



19.1L

Ferry Landing Park, Village of North Hudson
*earth ramp, canoe launching, bathhouse, picnic
area, restrooms, swimming, drinking water*



19.0R

Bayport Marina, Private
*temporary dockage, food, fuel (including
diesel), laundry, pumpouts, restrooms, service,
showers, slip rental (651) 439-2040*

NOTE: Since 1999, the use of personal watercraft (*Jet Skis, Wave Runners, etc.*) has been prohibited by the National Park Service north of the MN DNR Boomsite Access - at appx. River Mile 24.8.

NOTE: Due to the possible spread of zebra mussels into the upper reaches of the St. Croix, the National Park Service has restricted most boat traffic originating downstream from passing the check-point near the Arcola High Bridge (Canadian National Railroad) - mile 28.6. Boaters may wish to check the National Park Service's St. Croix website www.nps.gov/sacn for more up-to-date information.

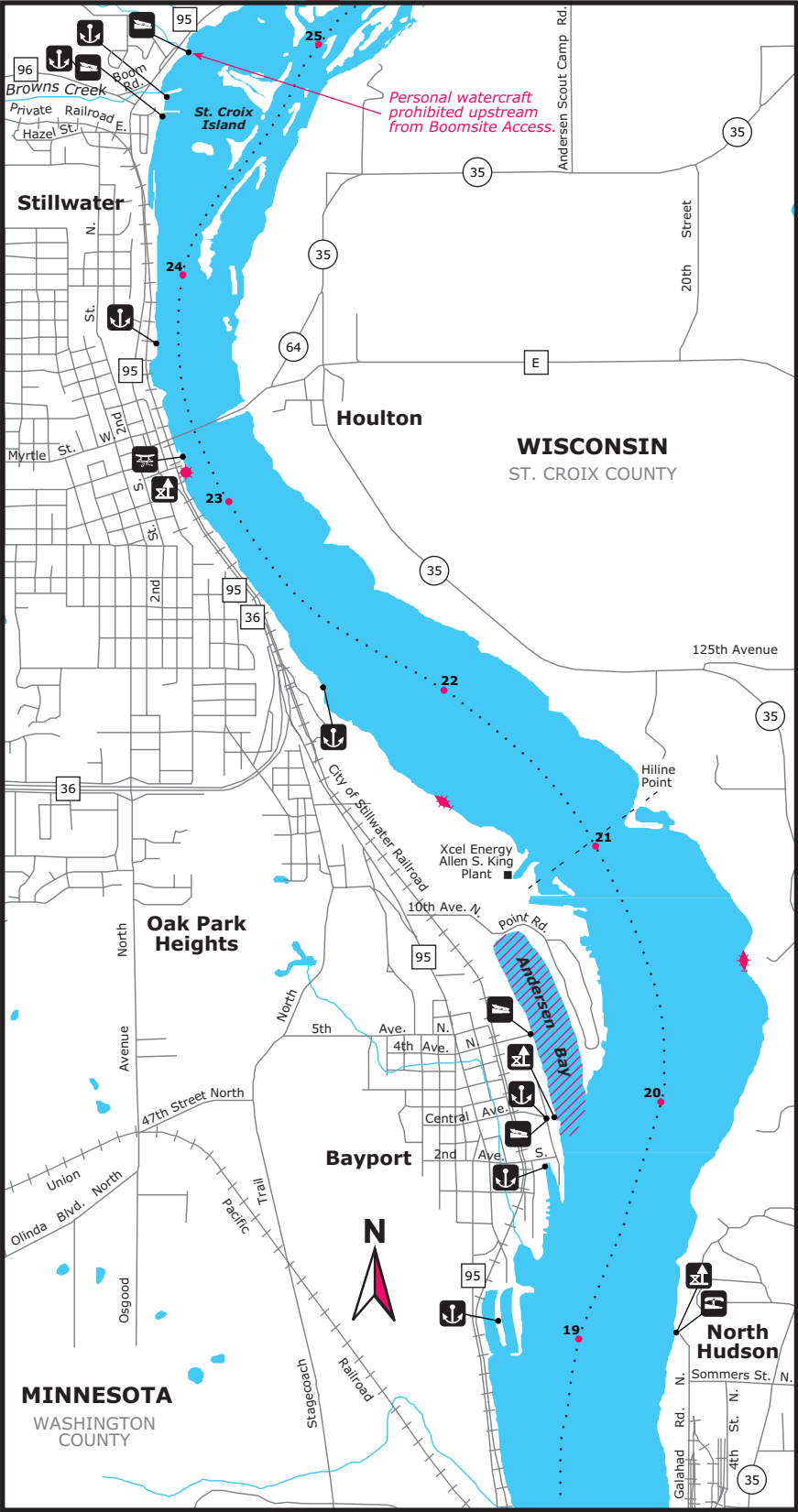
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When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a “slow - no wake” restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.

Boater's Notes



St. Croix River

see map on page 43

17.1-
16.1L

Hudson area

food, lodging away from river

www.saintcroixriver.com

St. Croix County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (715) 386-4701



16.6L

Lakefront Park, City of Hudson

concrete slab ramp (fee), beach (lifeguard), picnic
area, restroom, trails, drinking water



16.3L

St. Croix Marina, Private

overnight dockage (call for reservations), fuel,
pumpouts, ship's store (651) 439-2963,
(715) 386-8239, fax (715) 386-8895,
e-mail: info@stcroixmarina.com

www.stcroixmarina.com



16.1L

Royal Marine - King's Boat Ramp, Private

concrete ramp (fee), open to public



15.9R

Beanie's At Maui's Landing, Private

cement slab ramp (fee), bait & tackle, fuel,
boat rental, restrooms, snacks, soda & water,
emergency dockage, monitors channel 16
(651) 436-8874, fax (651) 436-3293,
e-mail: beaniesboating@attbi.com

www.boatingatbeanies.com

13.6-
12.9R

Lake St. Croix Beach area

food away from river

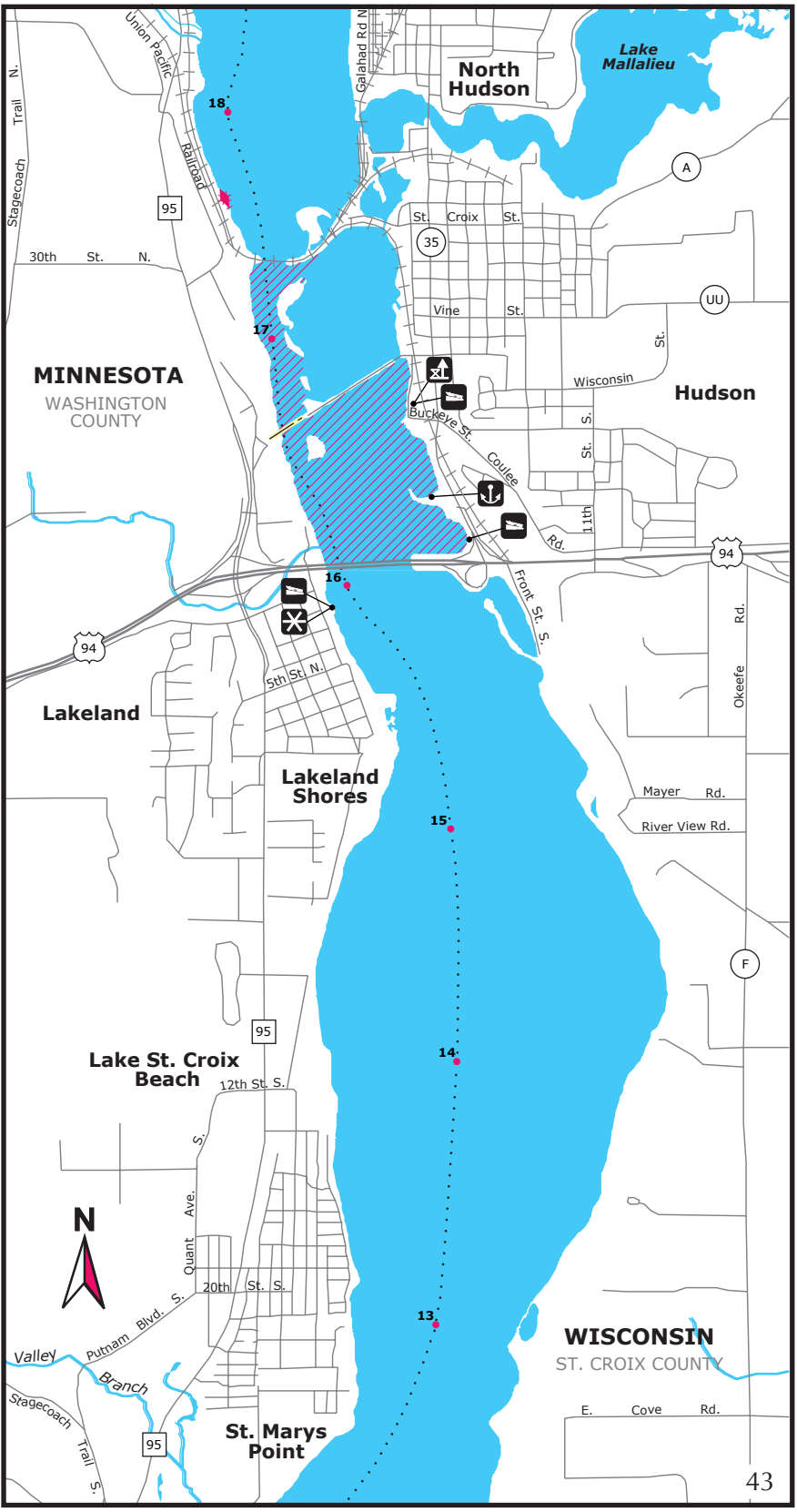
Washington County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 439-9381

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour." To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

There is also a "slow - no wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a "slow - no wake" restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.





11.5R

Afton Marina & Yacht Club, Private
fuel (including diesel), pumpouts, restrooms,
full service department, ship's store, haul out
up to 50 tons, (651) 436-6050,
fax (651) 436-8828
www.aftonmarina.net

11.4R

Afton area
in walking distance: food, lodging, old village
shopping area, www.saintcroixriver.com
Washington County Sheriff emergency 911 or
non-emergency (651) 439-9381



11.4R

Afton City Boat Dock, City of Afton
overnight dockage, transient dockage
(651) 436-8883



11.4R



Windmill Marina, Private
concrete ramp (fee), short & long term dockage,
fuel dock, pumpout, restrooms, full service,
ship's store, (651) 436-7744, fax (651) 436-1832
e-mail: joe@windmillmarina.com, tim@windmillmarina.com
www.windmillmarina.com



11.3R

Steamboat Park, City of Afton
picnicking, hiking & biking trail



9.6-
7.2R

Afton State Park, Minnesota DNR
no boat access - you can beach your boat on
shore, docking (RM 8.5R), picnicking, shelter
(hand pump), designated swimming area,
pit toilet, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats
excluded) permit required (651) 436-5391
www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



7.2-
5.8L

Kinnickinnic State Park, Wisconsin DNR
swim beach, boat-in camping - no tent camping,
moor boats on sand delta, picnicking, pit toilet
 path to overlook, picnic area (no access
to St. Croix River)
(715) 425-1129, www.dnr.state.wi.us

No wake zones

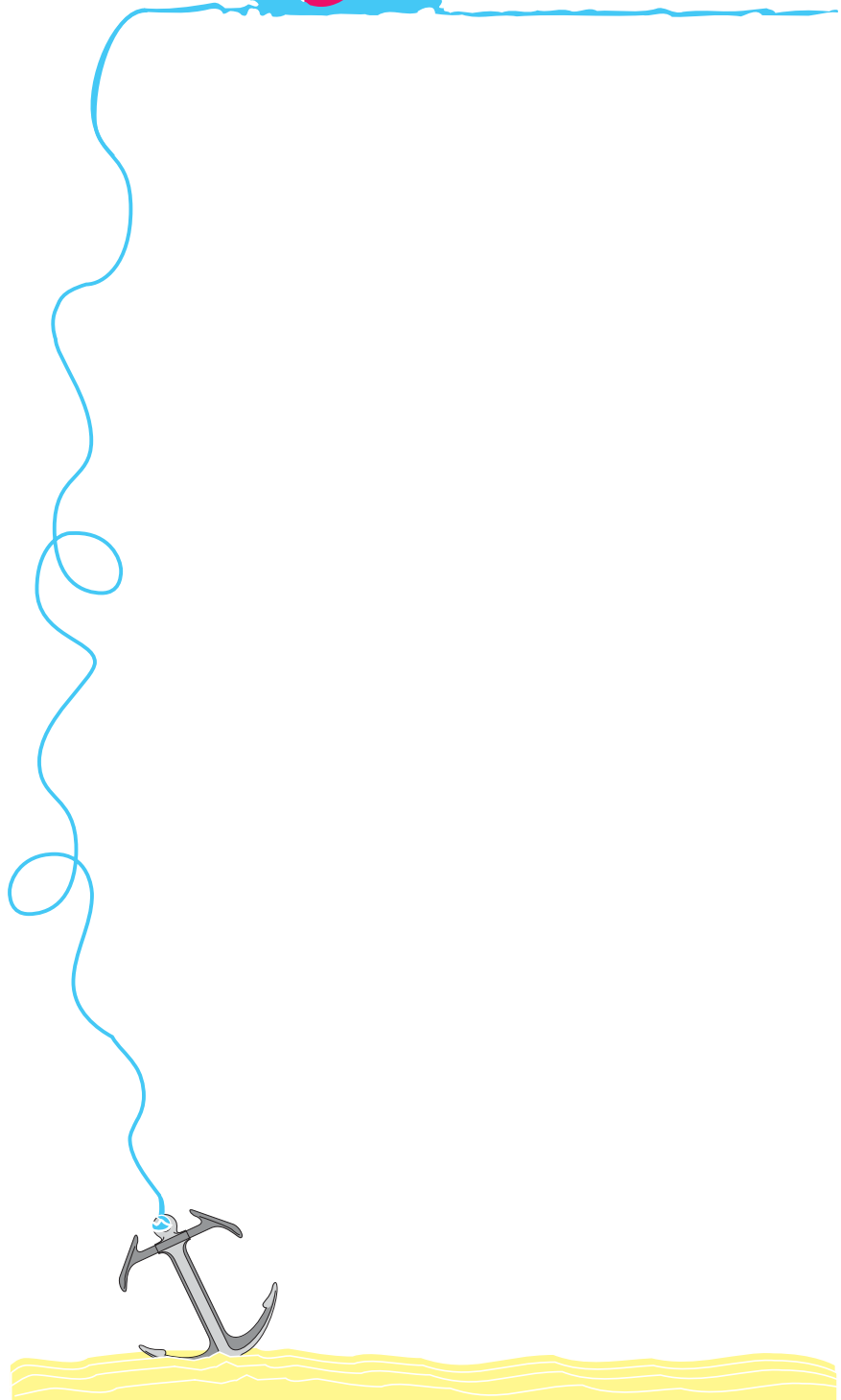
Special “slow - no wake zones” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to *“the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.”* To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

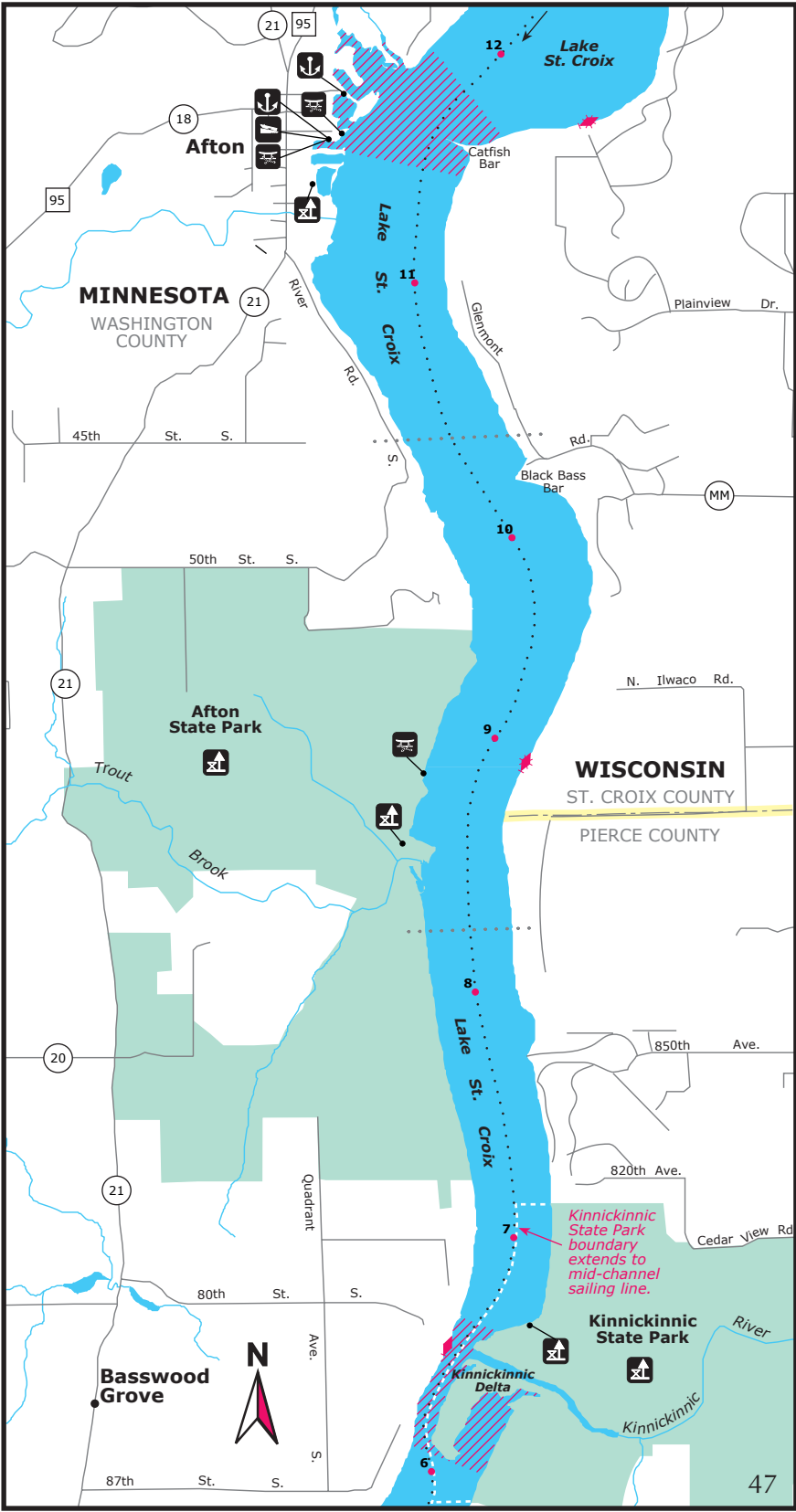
There is also a “slow - no wake” rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a “slow - no wake” restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.



Boater's Notes





St. Croix River



7.2-
5.8L

Kinnickinnic State Park, Wisconsin DNR

swim beach, boat-in camping - no tent camping, moor boats on sand delta, picnicking, pit toilet



path to overlook, picnic area (no access to St. Croix River)

(715) 425-1129, www.dnr.state.wi.us



4.2R



St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park, Washington County

asphalt ramp, dock is for loading and unloading, park pass: annual \$25, daily \$5, restricted use to boats of 19' or less, restrooms (651) 430-8240

www.co.washington.mn.us/parks

0.4-
810.8L

Prescott area

food, lodging away from river

www.saintcroixriver.com

Pierce County Sheriff emergency 911, all other services (715) 273-5051



0.5L

Prescott Public Beach, City of Prescott

beach



0.3R



Point Douglas, Washington County Parks

fishing pier, picnicking, restrooms, swimming beach (651) 430-8240

www.co.washington.mn.us/parks



0.1L

Prescott City, Courtesy Dock

temporary docking (fee)

Mississippi River

811.5-
810.8L

Prescott area

food, lodging, www.saintcroixriver.com

Pierce County Sheriff emergency 911, all other services (715) 273-5051



811.4L

Leo's Landing, Private

temporary dockage, fuel, full service marina, pumpouts, restrooms (715) 262-5998, fax (651) 770-8870, e-mail: jande10136@aol.com



811.4L

Point St. Croix Marina, Private

restrooms, temporary slips, (715) 262-3161



811.3L

Prescott Public Access, City of Prescott

two paved concrete ramps (fee)



811.1L

Miss Croix Yacht Harbor, Private

*fuel, pumpouts, 35 ton travel lift, boat repair,
snacks, water & pop
(715) 262-5202, (651) 480-0406*



**811.8-
802.2R**

Gores Wildlife Management Area, MN DNR

Contact DNR for more information on this area.

**Mississippi River (from Dayton to Prescott) starts
on page 62.**

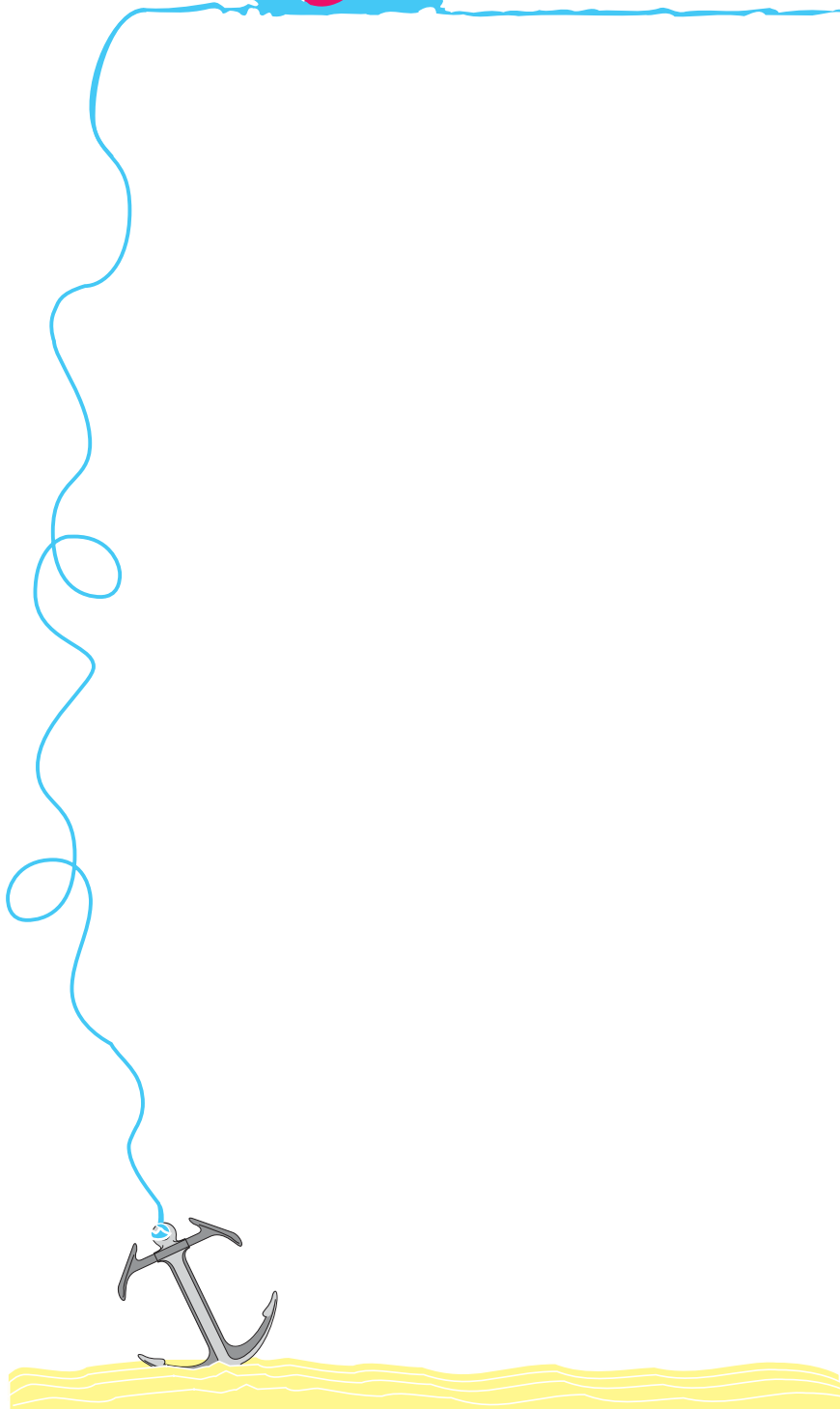
No wake zones

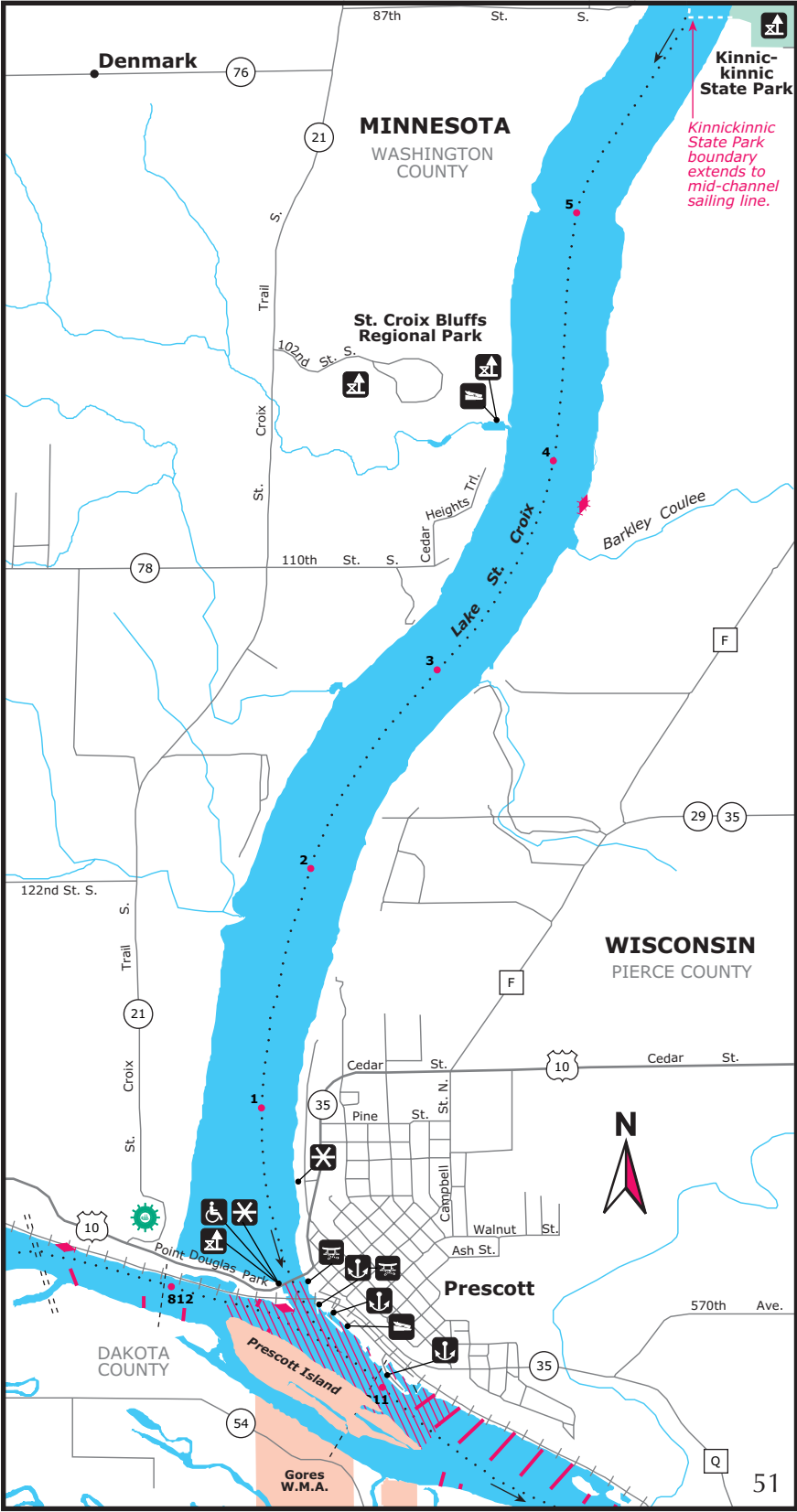
Special “slow - no wake zones” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

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When water levels rise to 683 feet at Stillwater, a “slow - no wake” restriction goes into effect on the entire Lower St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott. Signs at public accesses and marinas will notify the public if this restriction is imposed.




Boater's Notes





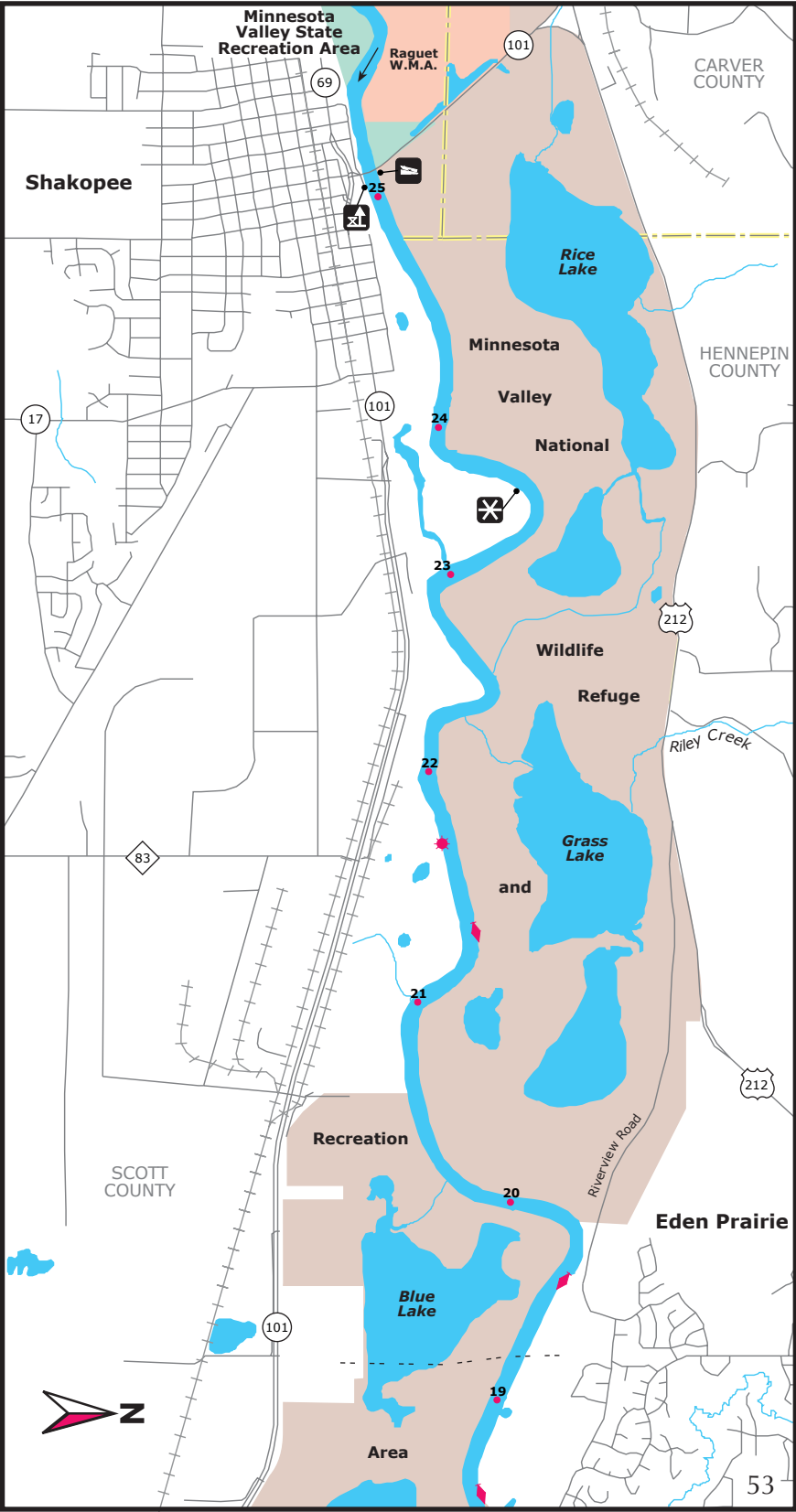
Minnesota River

see map on page 53

- 25.7-24.5R** **Shakopee area**
food, lodging away from river
*Scott County Sheriff emergency **911**, or*
non-emergency (952) 445-1411
- 25.6** *Upstream limit of 4 foot channel*
maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
-  **25.1L** **Huber Park, City of Shakopee**
concrete ramp, small boats only
-  **25.0R** **Huber Park, City of Shakopee**
fishing platform, picnic areas, restrooms
-  **23.5R** **Historic Murphy's Landing, Three Rivers Park District**
concrete ramp for emergencies only depending
on river level (763) 559-9000
www.threeriversparkdistrict.org
- 21.8** *Upstream limit of 9 foot channel maintained*
by private interests. Above this point a 4 foot
channel is maintained by the U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers to River Mile 25.6.

CAUTION: Because of the narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River, approaching and/or passing barge traffic may become hazardous.

Boater's Notes



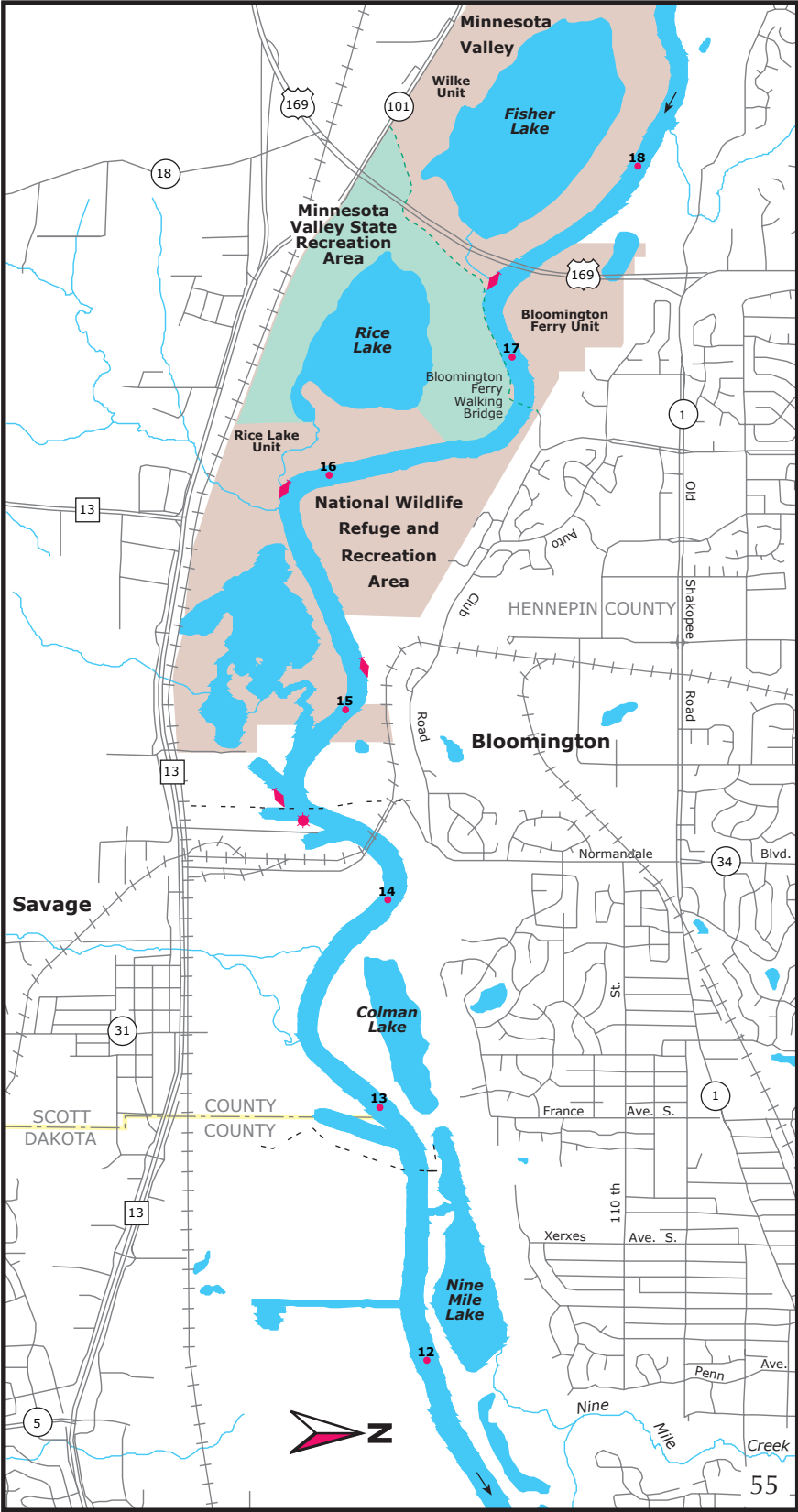
Minnesota River

see map on page 55

- 17.5-4.0L** **Bloomington area**
food, lodging away from river
emergency 911 or non-emergency
Hennepin County Sheriff Dispatch 24 hr.
non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880
Scott County Sheriff (952) 445-1411
Dakota County Sheriff (651) 322-2323
- 17.5-13.0R** **Savage area**
Scott County Sheriff emergency 911 or
non-emergency (952) 445-1411
- 14.7** *Upstream limit of U.S. Army Corps of*
Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this
point the 9 foot channel is maintained by
private interests to River Mile 21.8.

CAUTION: Because of the narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River, approaching and/or passing barge traffic may become hazardous.






Minnesota River

see map on page 57

17.5-4.0L **Bloomington area**
food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency 911 or Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880

13.0-7.0R **Burnsville area**
food, lodging away from river
Dakota County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 322-2323

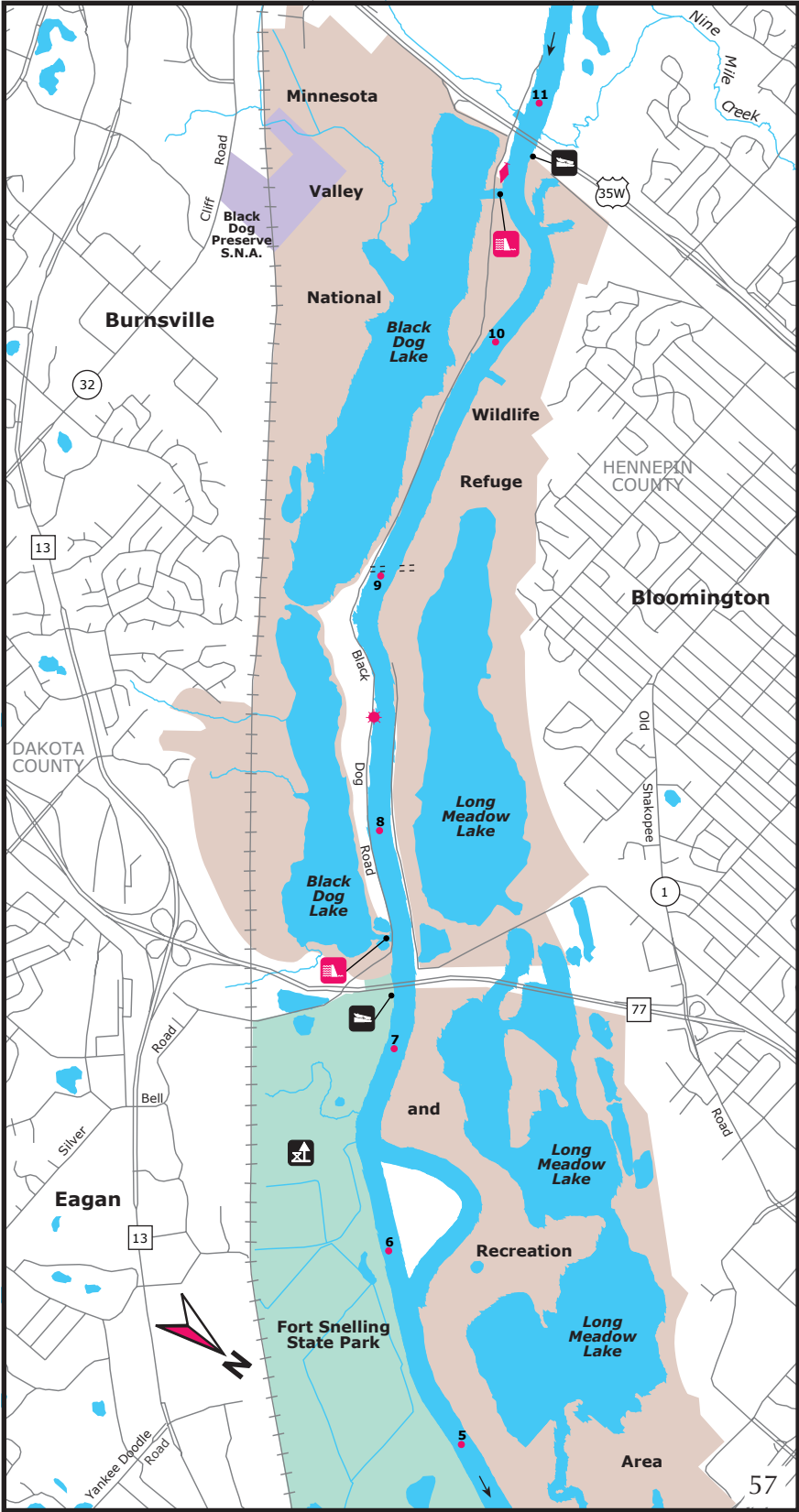
 **10.8L** **Russell A. Sorenson Landing (Lyndale Avenue), USFWS**
concrete ramp

7.0-4.8R **Eagan area**
food, lodging away from river
Dakota County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 322-2323

  **7.2R** **Jens A. Caspersen Landing, Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR**
concrete slab ramp, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required
 *dock, parking*
park hours: 8am - 10pm, (612) 725-2389
www.mndnr.gov/state_parks

    **7.2-0.0L(R)** **Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR**
two concrete ramps, carry-in access, beach and fishing pier on Snelling Lake (electric motors only), hiking, year round naturalist activities, picnic area, restrooms, visitor center, drinking water, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required
 *fishing pier, restroom, picnic area, open & closed picnic shelter, swimming beach, visitor center, public phone*
park hours: 8am - 10pm, (612) 725-2389
www.mndnr.gov/state_parks

CAUTION: Because of the narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River, approaching and/or passing barge traffic may become hazardous.



Minnesota River

see map on page 61

17.5-
0.0L(R)

Richfield / Mendota Heights / Eagan / Bloomington area

food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or
Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880
Dakota County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 322-2323



7.2

0.0L(R)

Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

two concrete ramps, carry-in access, beach and
fishing pier on Snelling Lake (electric motors only),
hiking, year round naturalist activities, picnic area,
restrooms, visitor center, drinking water,
Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded)
permit required



fishing pier, restroom, picnic area, open &
closed picnic shelter, swimming beach,
visitor center, public phone

park hours: 8am - 10pm, (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



3.2L

Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

carry-in access, Minnesota State Park vehicle
(boats excluded) permit required

park hours: 8am - 10pm (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



1.5L

Picnic Island, Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

concrete ramp, Minnesota State Park vehicle
(boats excluded) permit required



dock, parking

park hours: 8am - 10pm, (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks

Mississippi River

850.5-

833.2L(R)

St. Paul area

food, lodging away from river
Ramsey County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 767-0640

859.4-

846.5R(L)

Minneapolis area

food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or
Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880

Mississippi River Continued



847.6

Lock and Dam No. 1, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right



846.5L

Hidden Falls Regional Park, City of St. Paul
cement plank ramp, grills, 2 fire rings, picnicking, restrooms, trail, drinking water (651) 632-5111
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks



844.9L

Watergate Marina, City of St. Paul
protected concrete slab ramp (fee), courtesy dock, fuel (gas & diesel), pumpouts, restrooms, full service & parts, transient slips by reservation, slip rental, ship's store, towing, land storage, drinking water & ice, laundry, showers (651) 695-3780
www.watergatemarina.net
NOTE: boat ramp is located at River Mile 844.8L next to Crosby Regional Park



845.4-
843.2L

Crosby Regional Park, City of St. Paul
grills, picnicking, restrooms, trail, drinking water (651) 632-5111
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks

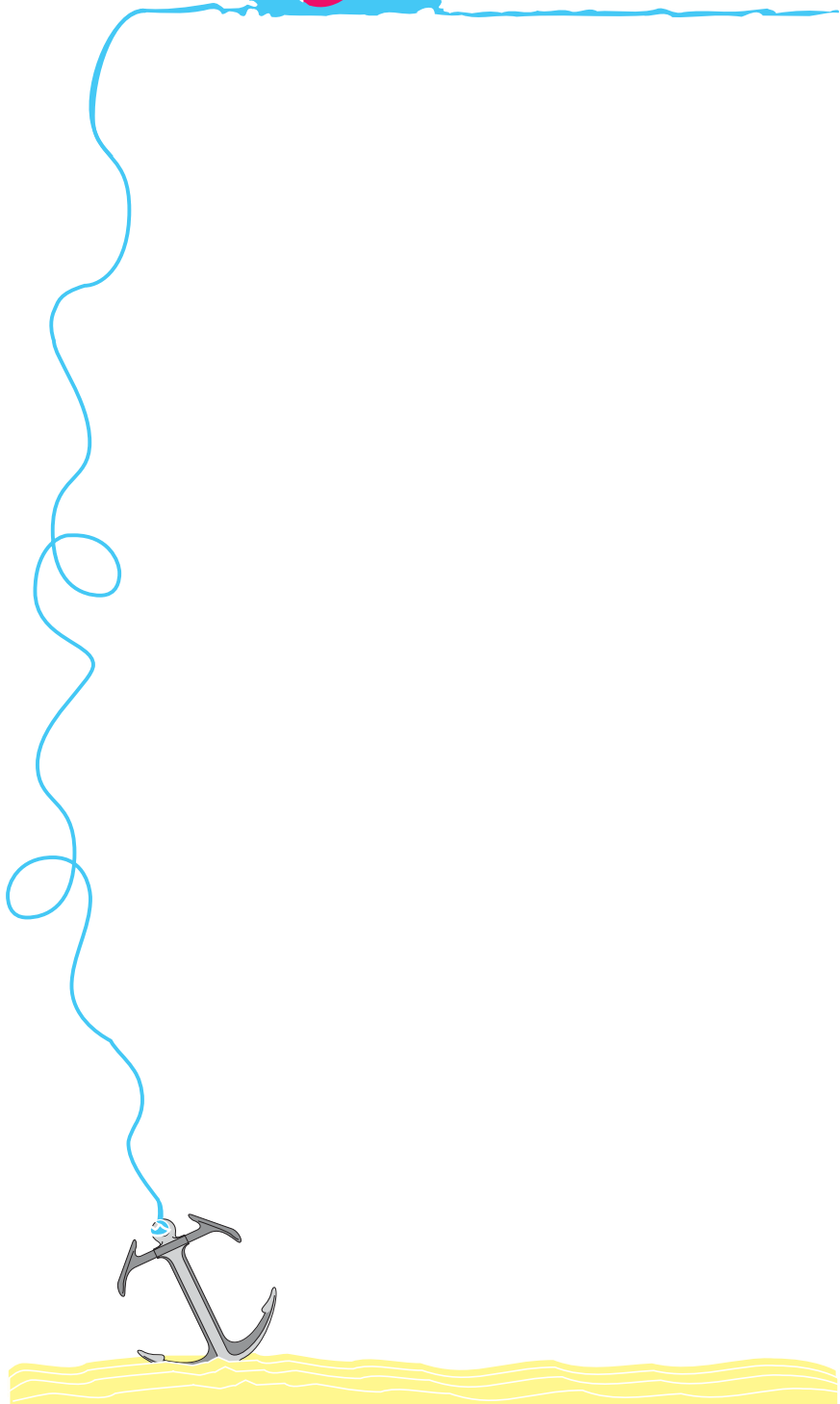
Mississippi River (from Dayton to Prescott) starts on page 62.

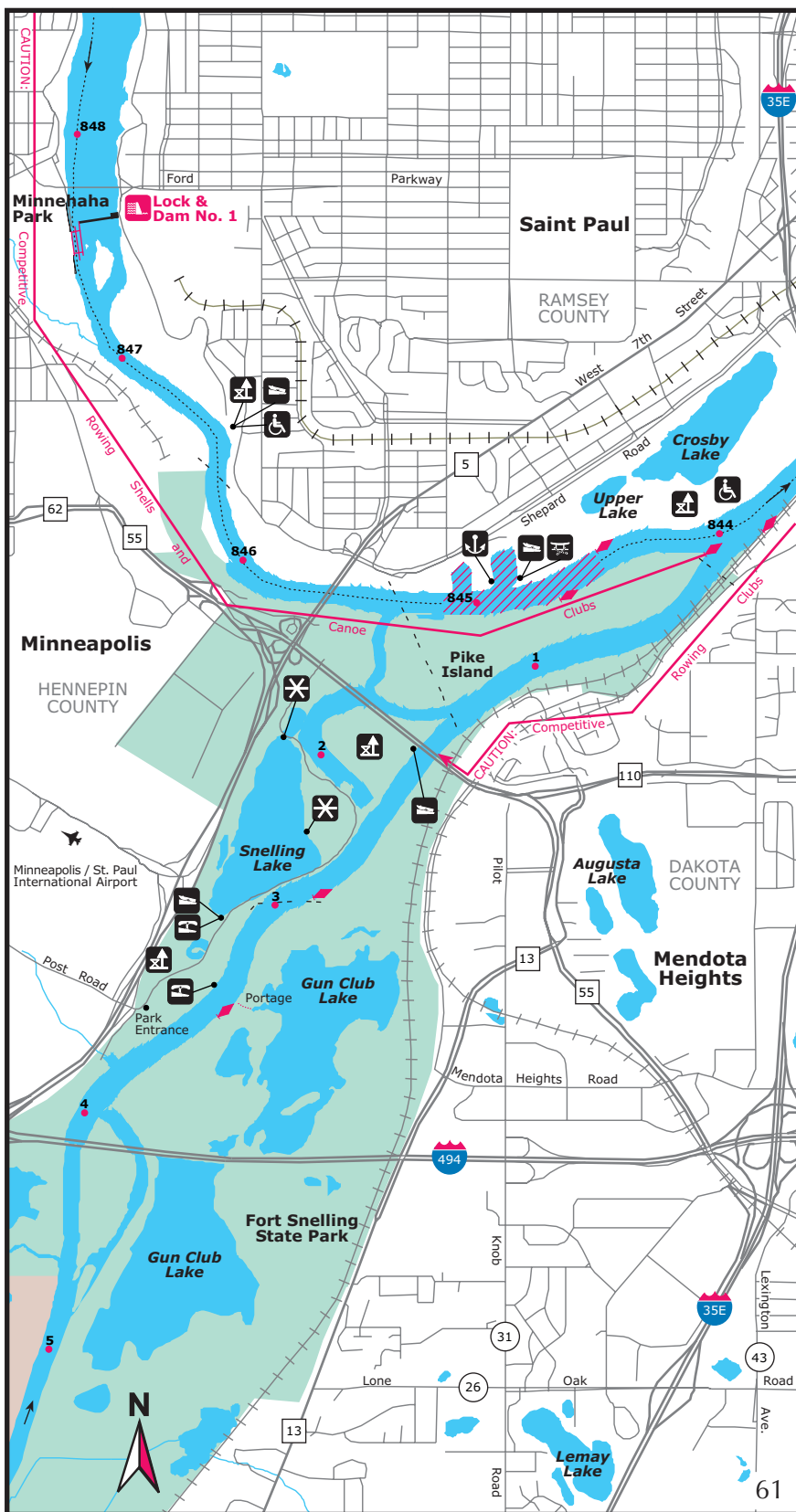
CAUTION: Because of the narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River, approaching and/or passing barge traffic may become hazardous.

No wake zones

Special “slow - no wake zones” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes





887.9-884.1 Mississippi River Islands Scientific and Natural Area, Minnesota DNR
comprised of five islands; dominated by silver maple; species like stinging nettles are common in the understory; provide perching areas, nest sites and roost sites for bald eagles and resting and feeding areas for species like trumpeter swans; these species and others need areas where disturbance from other activities are limited or nonexistent; islands are closed to hunting



885.2-884.7R



Otsego Regional Park, Wright County Parks
canoe access, no pets allowed in picnic area and on trail, keep dogs attended and on leash at all times, no alcohol allowed, picnic area, play field and play structure, shelters (fee), vault pit toilets, paved trails, water
 park buildings are open May 1 - September 25
 park hours: 6:00am - sunset year round
 (763) 682-7693
www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/parks/parks.asp

886.0-883.3L(R) Otsego / Elk River area
food in Elk River
 emergency **911** or non-emergency
 Wright County Sheriff (763) 682-1162
 Sherburne County Sheriff (763) 241-2500



883.0L

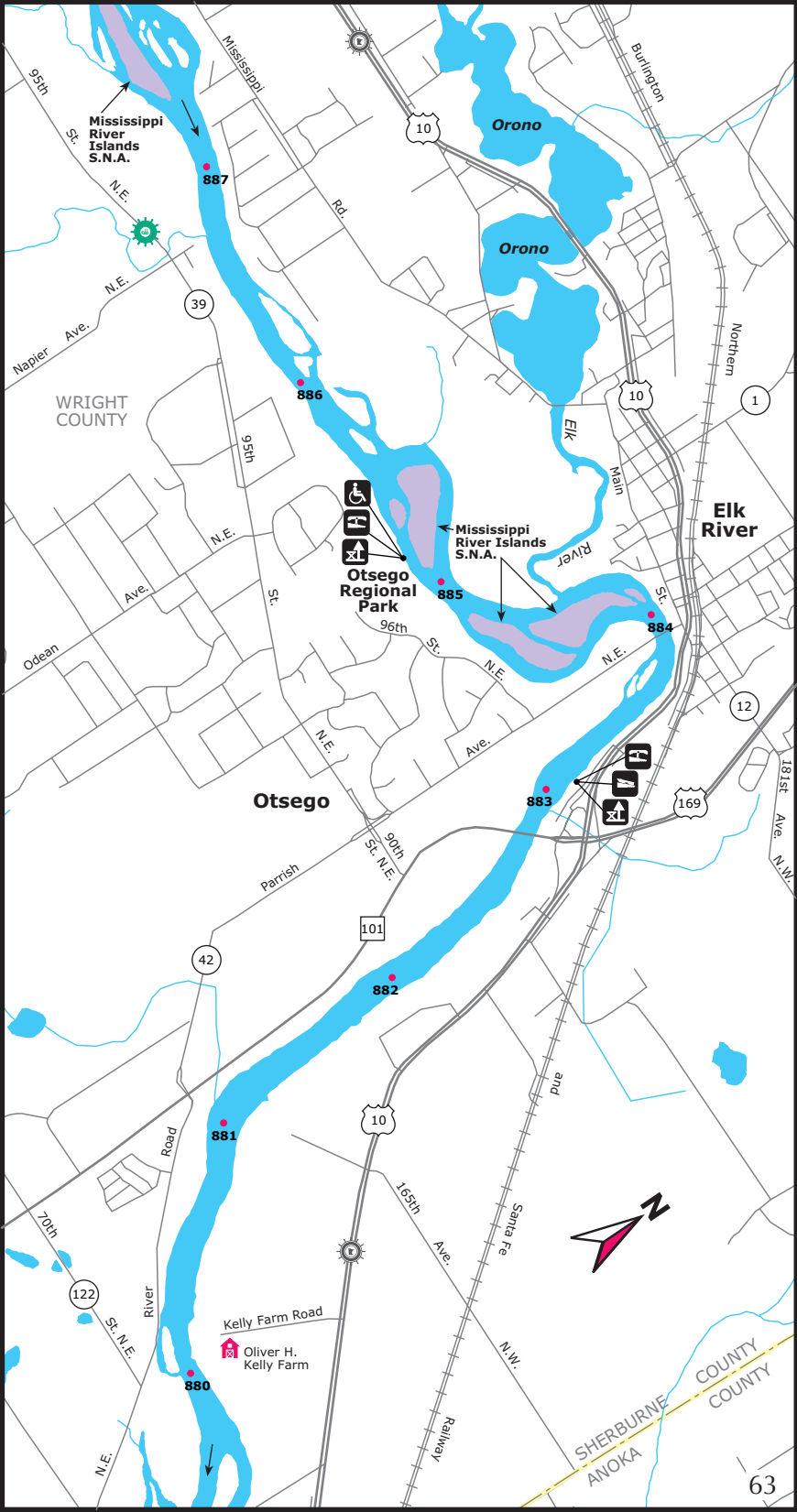


Babcock Memorial Park and Rest Area, Minnesota DOT
concrete plank ramp (shallow water - small boats - jon, fishing & canoes), picnicking & grills, vault toilets, water (well pump)



CAUTION: There is neither a channel nor buoys on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid damage.

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour." To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.




879.5 - Dayton
879.0R emergency **911** or non-emergency
 Wright County Sheriff (763) 682-1162
 Sherburne County Sheriff (763) 241-2500
 Anoka County Sheriff (763) 323-5000
 Hennepin County Sheriff
 Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
 Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880

 **879.0R** **Crow / Dayton River Public Access, Minnesota DNR**
concrete plank ramp, portable chemical toilet
 *parking, toilet*

  **878.1L** **Daytonport Highway Rest Area, Minnesota DOT**
carry-in access, grills, picnic area, restrooms, water

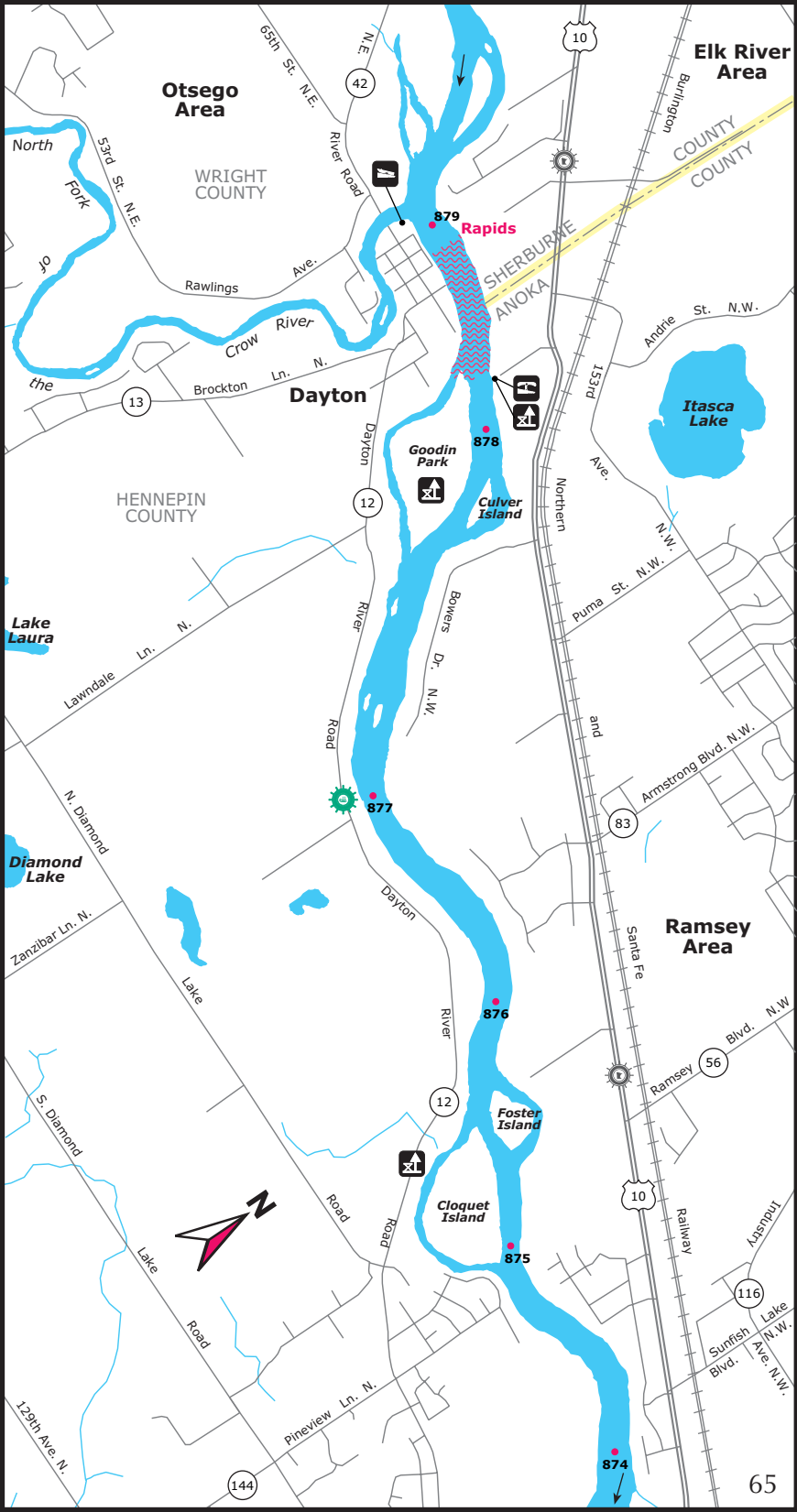
 **878.1** **Goodin Park, City of Dayton**
benches, grills, picnic tables, trails

 **875.2R** **Cloquet Overlook Park, City of Dayton**
overlooks west area of Cloquet Island, steep cliff to overlook

CAUTION: There is neither a channel nor buoys on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid damage.

No wake zones

Special “slow - no wake zones” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.



Mississippi River



873.4-
872.8R

Donie Galloway Riverside Park, City of Champlin
open play area, trails



873.4
872.9L

Mississippi River Community Park, City of Anoka
carry-in, fishing dock, cookers, restrooms, picnicking, 4 shelters, trails, drinking water (763) 576-2700, www.ci.anoka.mn.us



873.0-
868.0R

Champlin area
*food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency 911 or Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880*

873.5-
870.0L

Anoka area
*food, lodging away from river
Anoka County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (763) 323-5000*

Rum River



1.7R

Rum River South County Park, Anoka County
asphalt ramp, canoe access, restrooms, picnic area, trails, water (763) 757-3920, www.co.anoka.mn.us



0.2L

Atkin Riverside Park, City of Anoka
boat access, picnic

Mississippi River



871.3L

Peninsula Point Two Rivers Historical Park, City of Anoka
boat docks, cookers, nature walk, picnicking, pavilion, restrooms, shelter, trails, drinking water, (763) 575-2700, www.ci.anoka.mn.us



870.9R

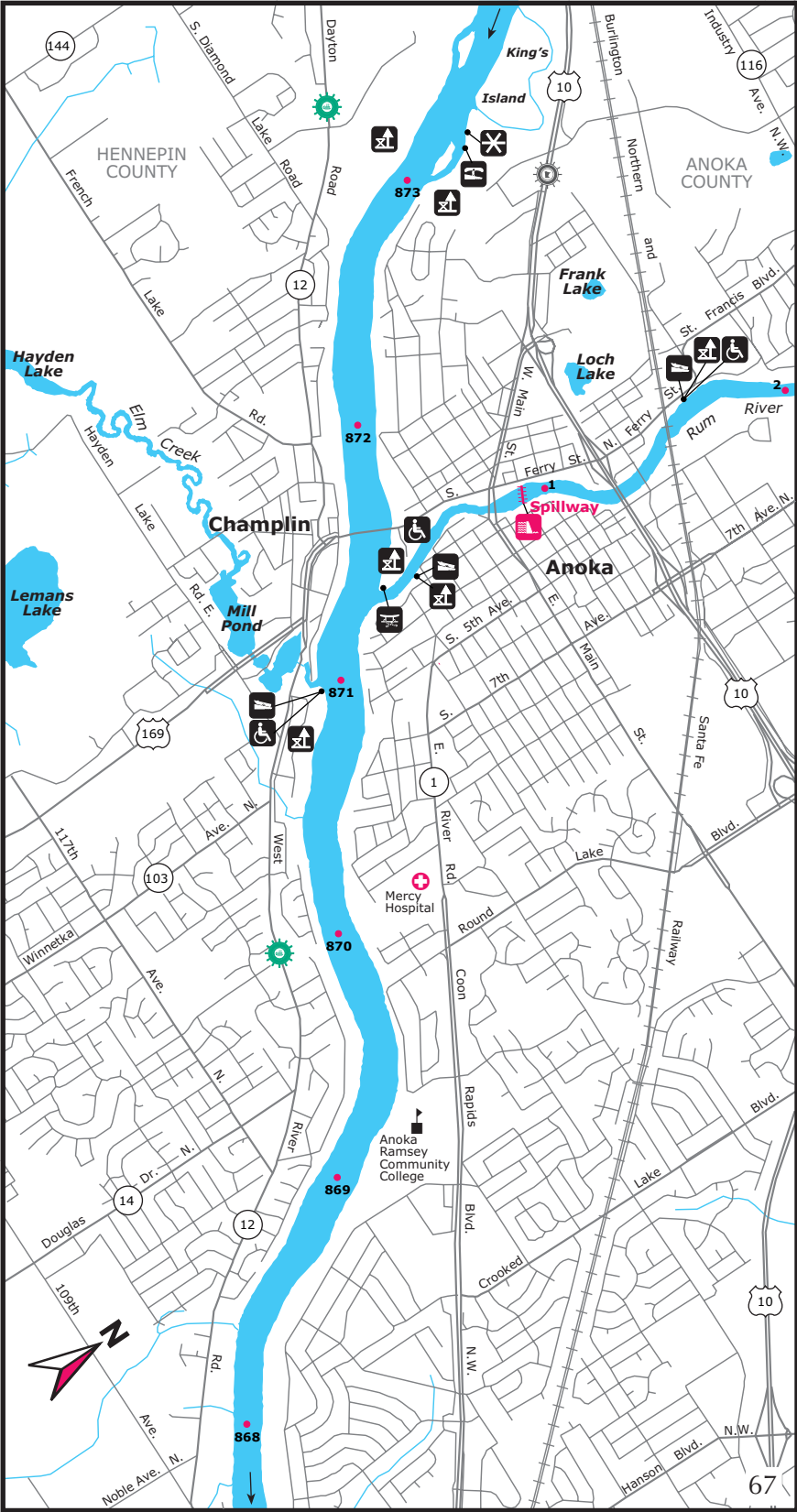
Mississippi Point Park, City of Champlin
paved concrete ramp, picnicking, restrooms, shore fishing (763) 421-2820



870.3-
864.4L

Coon Rapids area
*food, lodging away from the river
Anoka County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (763) 323-5000*

CAUTION: There is neither a channel nor buoys on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid damage, especially upstream of the Highway 169 Bridge, between Anoka and Champlin.



870.3-
864.4L

Coon Rapids

food, lodging away from river
Anoka County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (763) 323-5000



866.3L

Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, Anoka County (east side of river)

visitor center, bait & tackle, bike rental & trails,
shore fishing, picnicking, picnic shelters (reserva-
tions), restrooms, drinking water (763) 757-4700,
fax (763) 757-4767, www.co.anoka.mn.us



866.3R

Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, Three Rivers Park District (west side of river)

fishing deck, picnic area, visitor center, west side
accessible using the Coon Rapids Dam walkway
from the east side (763) 559-9000
www.threeriversparkdistrict.org



866.3L

Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Access, Anoka County

paved concrete ramp



866.2L

Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, Anoka County

carry-in access



863.0R

River Park, City of Brooklyn Park

paved concrete ramp, restrooms, picnic area and
picnic shelter, restrooms, drinking water



861.8L

Manomin County Park, Anoka County

fishing/viewing platform, picnic area, restrooms
(open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm in historical
home & art center), trail, drinking water
Banfill-Locke historical home and Banfill-Locke
Center for the Arts (763) 757-3920
www.co.anoka.mn.us



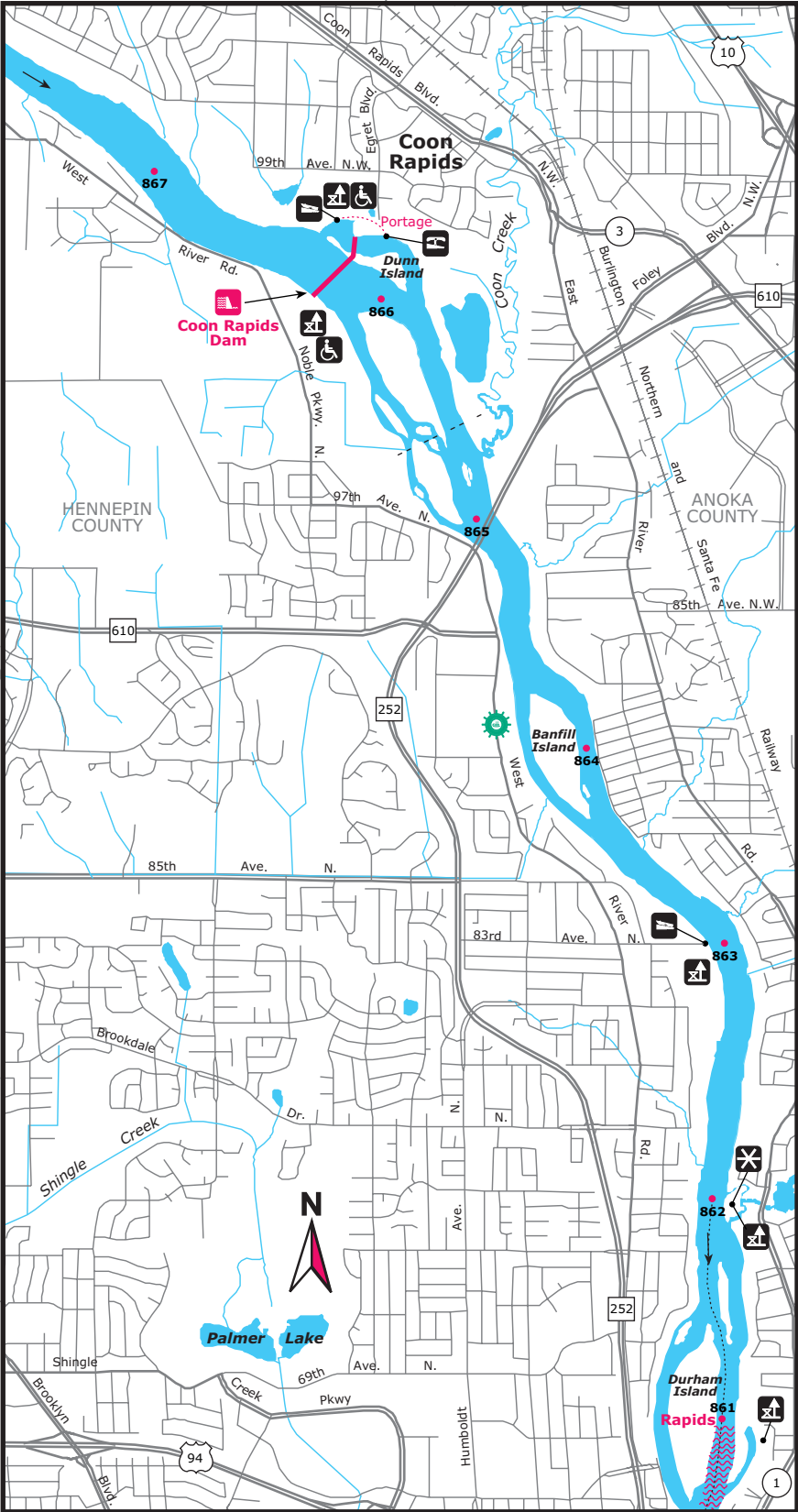
860.8L

Islands of Peace, Anoka County

picnic area, restrooms and drinking water are
open Monday - Friday 8am - 3:30pm, weekends
9am - 4pm (763) 757-3920
www.co.anoka.mn.us

NOTE: Please, no landing, camping or hiking on
Durham Island from April 15 to July 15 to protect
nesting wildlife.

CAUTION: There is neither a channel nor buoys on this portion
of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should
take precautions to avoid damage, especially below the Coon
Rapids Dam.



Mississippi River

see map on page 71



860.8L

Islands of Peace Park, Anoka County

picnic area, restrooms and drinking water are open Monday - Friday 8am - 3:30pm, weekends 9am - 4pm (763) 574-3920

www.co.anoka.mn.us

NOTE: Please, no landing, camping or hiking on Durham Island from April 15 to July 15 to protect nesting wildlife.



860.3R

North Mississippi Regional Park, Three Rivers Park District

boat launch & dock, fishing pier, restroom, trail, drinking water along trail, picnic, vehicle parking (763) 694-7693

www.threeriversparkdistrict.org



860.2L

Anoka Riverfront Regional Park, Anoka County

concrete plank ramp, picnic area, restrooms, trail, drinking water (763) 757-3920 (Park office hours Monday - Friday 8am - 4:30pm)

www.co.anoka.mn.us



859.4-

Minneapolis area

846.5R(L)

food, lodging away from river

Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or

Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216

Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880



858.0R

North Mississippi Park, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

no facilities along river (picnic area, restroom, and water away from river on path)

www.minneapolisparcs.org



857.8R

North Mississippi Park, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

concrete ramp, floating fishing pier

www.minneapolisparcs.org

857.6

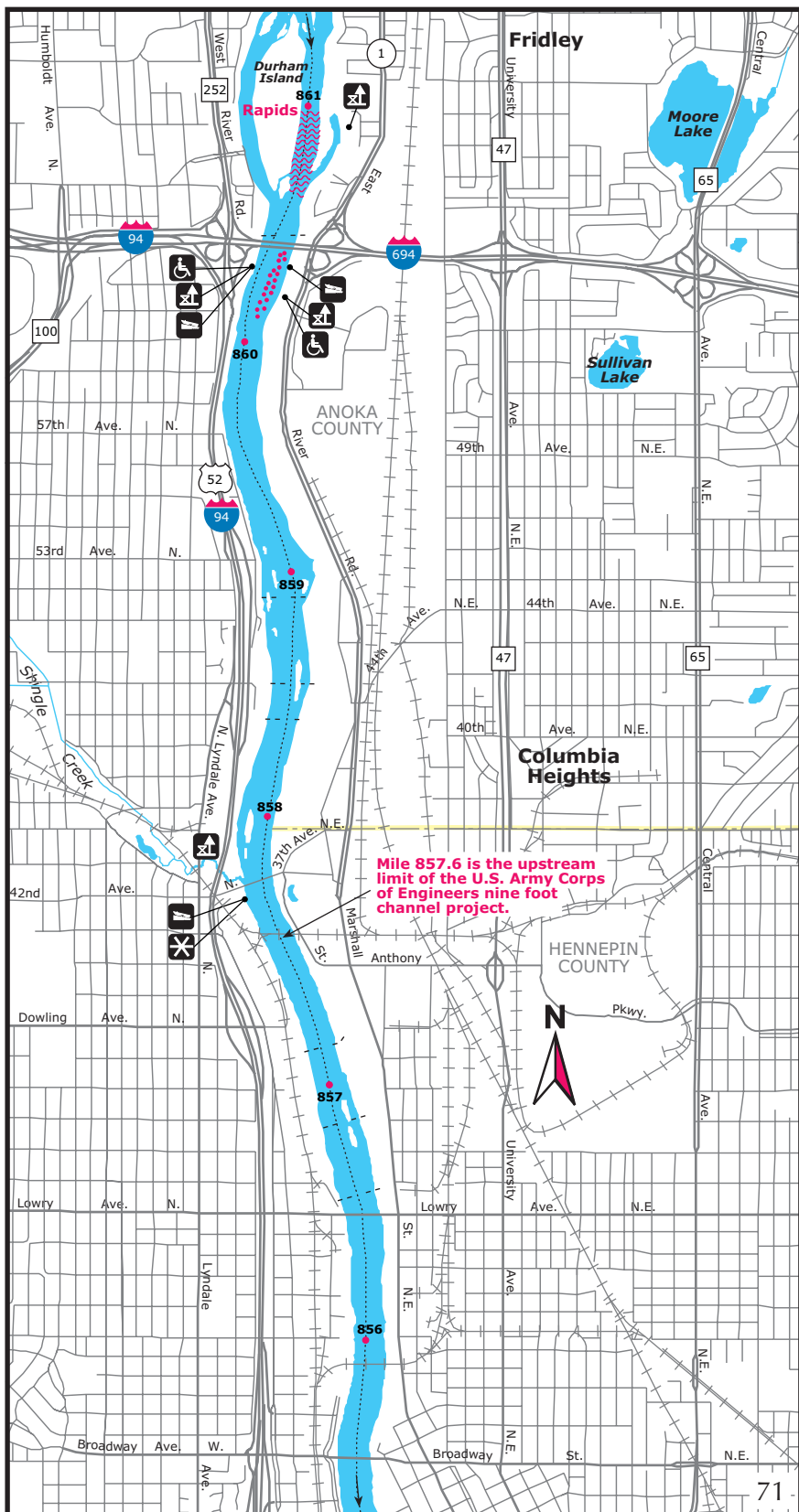
Upstream limit of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this point channel depth is not maintained.

NOTE: SPEED LIMITS IN EFFECT - CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Speed limit between River Mile 857.6 through 850.5 is:

 40 mph from sunrise to sunset.

 20 mph from sunset to sunrise.



Mississippi River

see map on page 75



854.8L

Boom Island, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

concrete ramp, temporary dockage, parking (fee), picnic area, picnic shelter, restrooms, drinking water www.minneapolisparks.org



859.4- Minneapolis area

846.5R(L) food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or
Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880



854.1

Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

stay to right when headed downstream to enter lock



853.9

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

lock on right



853.4

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

lock on right



852.4L

East River Flats Park, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

earth ramp - carry-in, parking (fee), picnicking,
walking paths
www.minneapolisparks.org



850.1R

Minneapolis Rowing Club, Private

shore launch for rowing club and emergency
vehicles only
www.mplsrowing.org

850.5- St. Paul area

833.2L(R) food, lodging away from river
Ramsey County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 767-0640

CAUTION: Competitive rowing shells and canoeing clubs use the area from the Washington Avenue Bridge to the Ford Dam (Lock and Dam No. 1). Steer clear of them and remember that boaters are responsible for their own wake.

NOTE: SPEED LIMITS IN EFFECT - CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Speed limit between River Mile 857.6 through 850.5 is:

☐ 40 mph from sunrise to sunset

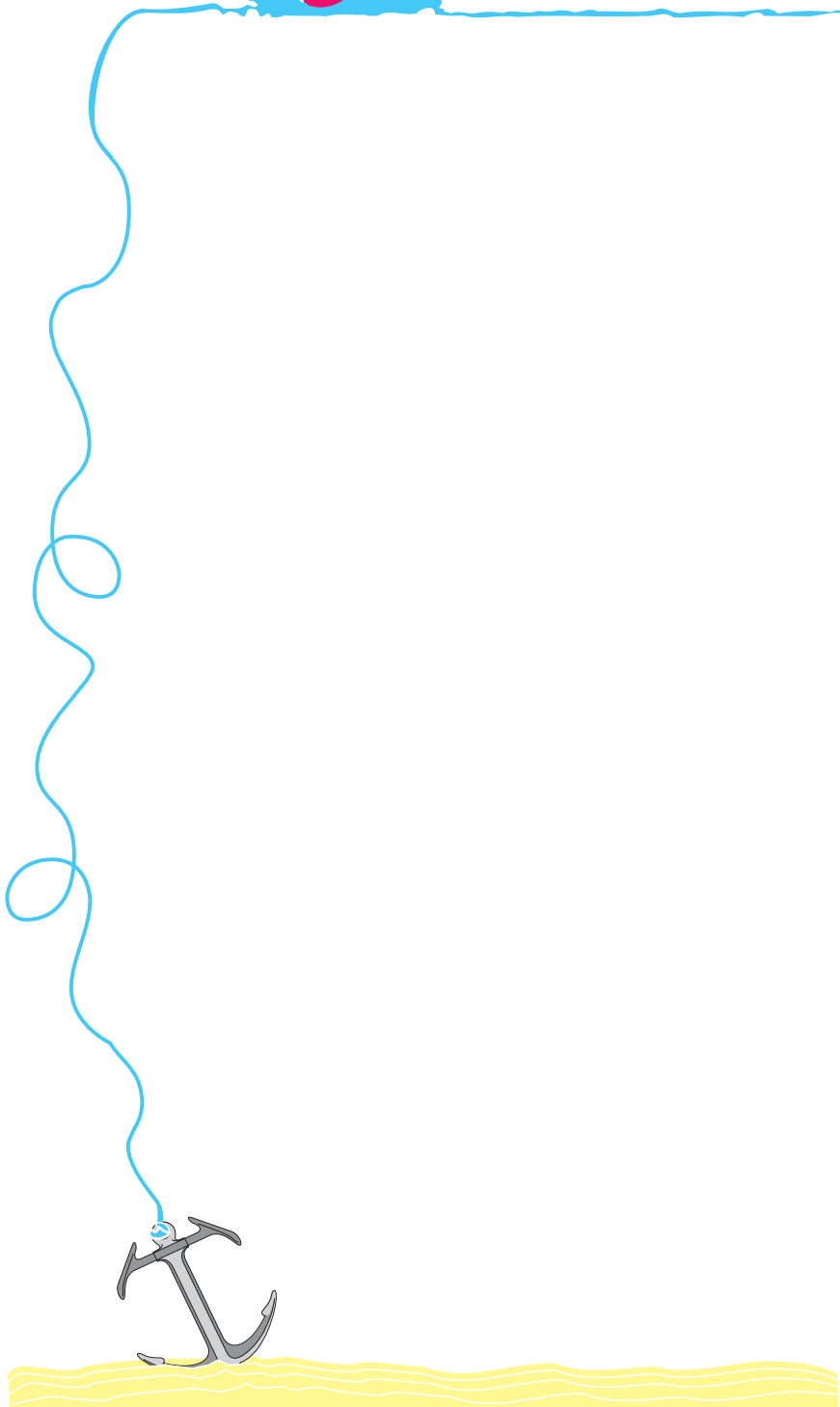
☐ 20 mph sunset to sunrise.

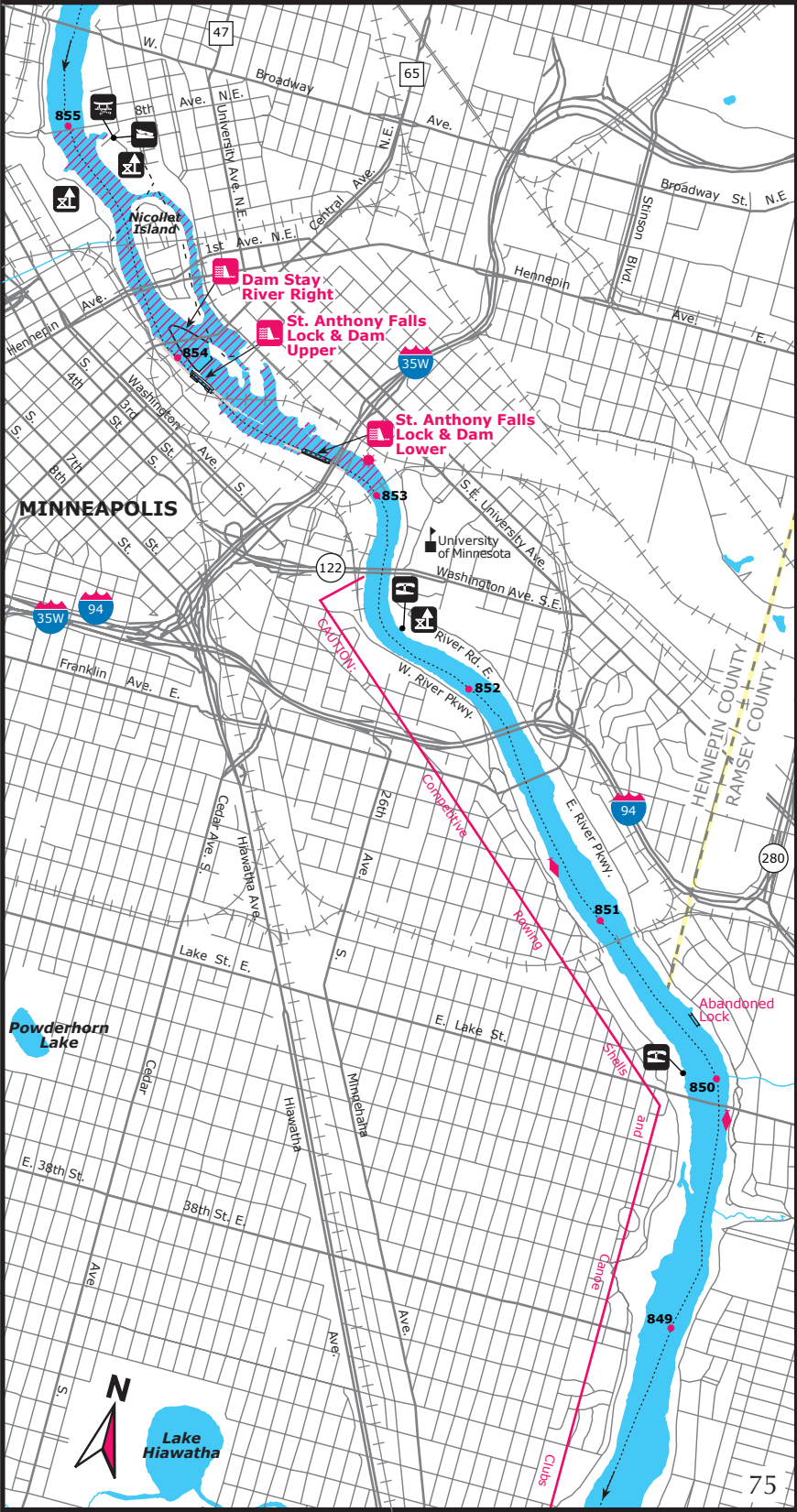
No wake zones

Special “*slow - no wake zones*” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “*the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.*” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes

Boater's Notes





Mississippi River

see map on page 79

850.5- St. Paul area

833.2L(R) food, lodging away from river
Ramsey County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 767-0640

859.4- Minneapolis area

846.5R(L) food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or
Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880



847.6 Lock and Dam No. 1, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right



846.5L Hidden Falls Regional Park, City of St. Paul
cement plank ramp, grills, 2 fire rings, picnicking,
restrooms, trails, drinking water (651) 632-5111
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks



844.9L Watergate Marina, City of St. Paul
protected concrete slab ramp (fee), courtesy dock,
fuel (gas & diesel), pumpouts, restrooms, full
service & parts, transient slips by reservation, slip
rental, ship's store, towing, land storage, drinking
water & ice, laundry, showers (651) 695-3780
www.watergatemarina.net
NOTE: boat ramp is located at River Mile 844.8L
next to Crosby Regional Park



845.4- Crosby Regional Park, City of St. Paul
843.2L grills, picnicking, restrooms, trail, drinking water
(651) 632-5111
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks

Minnesota River

17.5- Richfield / Mendota Heights / Eagan / 0.0L(R) Bloomington area

food, lodging away from river
Hennepin County Sheriff emergency **911** or
Dispatch 24 hr. non-emergency (763) 525-6216
Water Patrol non-emergency (612) 596-9880
Dakota County Sheriff emergency **911** or
non-emergency (651) 322-2323

Minnesota River Continued



7.2
0.0L(R)



Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

two concrete ramps, carry-in access, beach and fishing pier on Snelling Lake (electric motors only), hiking, year round naturalist activities, picnic area, restrooms, visitor center, drinking water, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required



fishing pier, restroom, picnic area, open & closed picnic shelter, swimming beach, visitor center, public phone
park hours: 8am - 10pm (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



3.2L

Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

carry-in access, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required
park hours: 8am - 10pm (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks



1.5L

Picnic Island, Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR

concrete ramp, Minnesota State Park vehicle (boats excluded) permit required



dock, parking

park hours: 8am - 10pm (612) 725-2389

www.mndnr.gov/state_parks

Minnesota River starts on page 52.

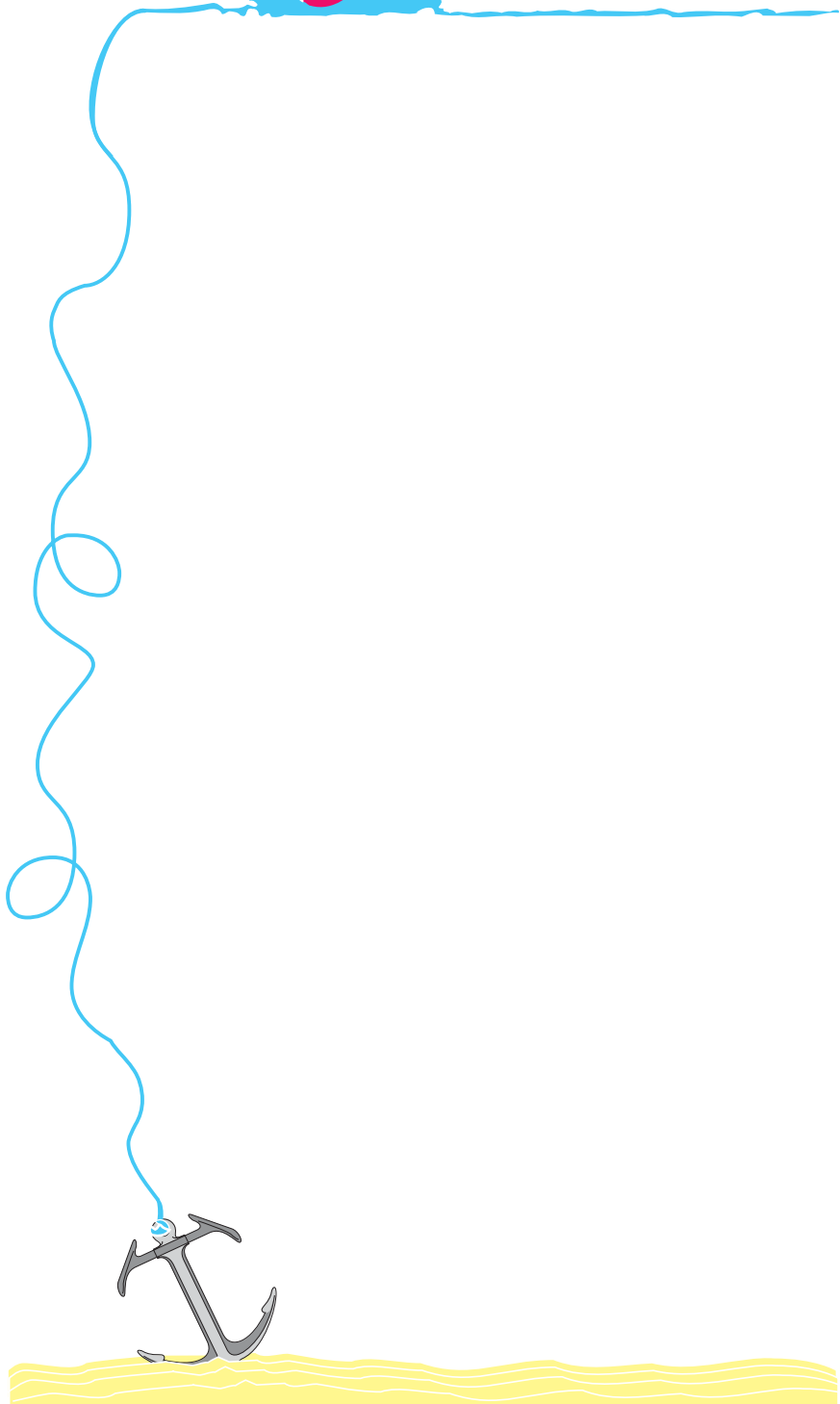
CAUTION: Because of the narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River, approaching and/or passing barge traffic may become hazardous.

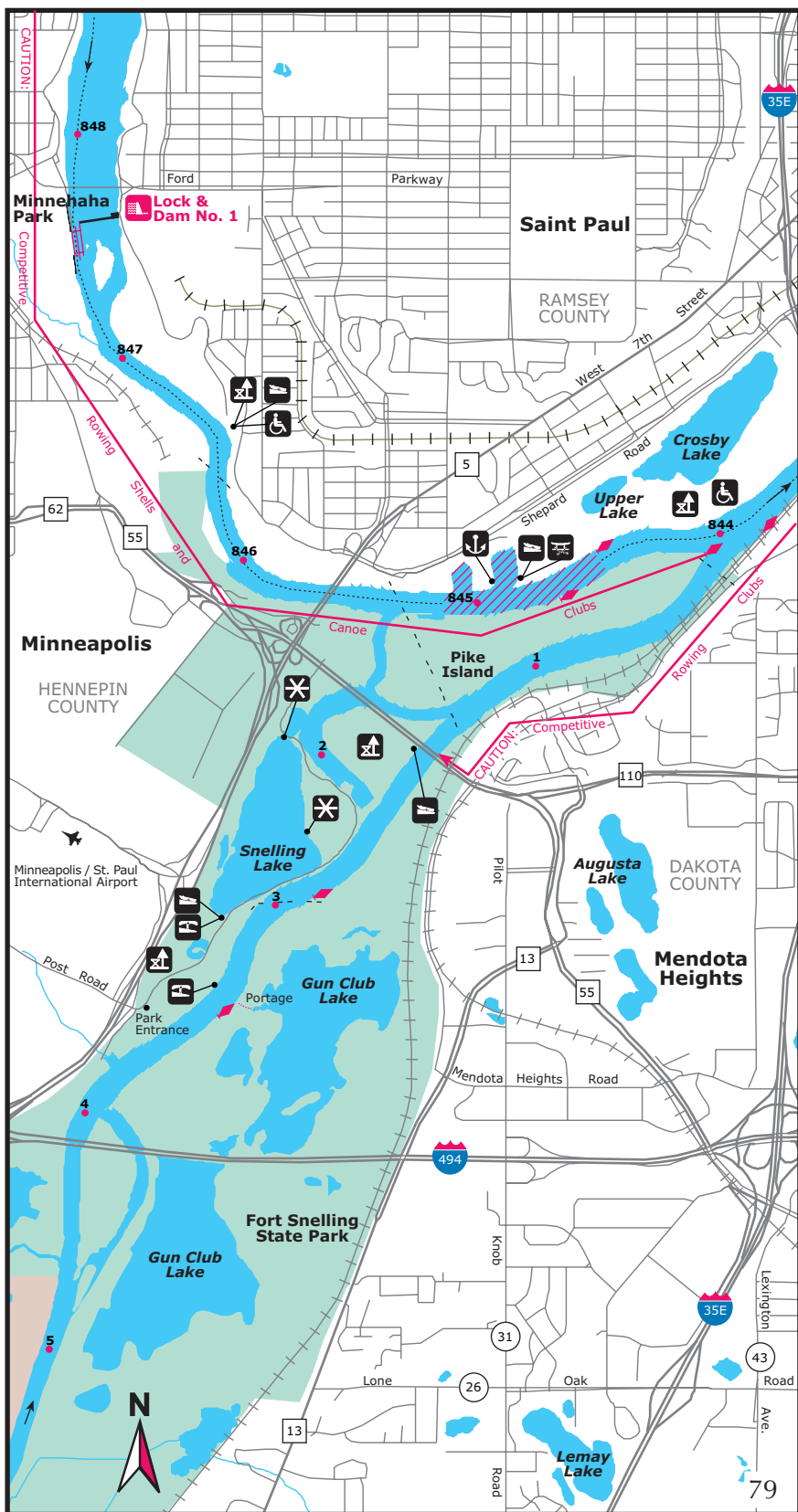
CAUTION: St. Paul competitive rowing clubs use the area from the Mendota Bridge (State Highway 55) to the Robert Street Bridge (U.S. Highway 3). Steer clear of them and remember that boaters are responsible for their own wake.

No wake zones

Special “slow - no wake zones” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes





Mississippi River

see map on page 83



**845.4-
843.2L**

Crosby Regional Park, City of St. Paul

*grills, picnicking, restrooms, trail, drinking water
(651) 632-5111*

www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks

850.5-

St. Paul area

833.2L(R)

food, lodging away from river

emergency 911 or non-emergency

Dakota County Sheriff (651) 322-2323

Ramsey County Sheriff (651) 767-0640



842.2R

Lilydale Regional Park, City of St. Paul

concrete ramp (no fee), vehicle and boat/

trailer parking, park hours - 5:00am to 10:00pm

(651) 632-5111



**840.2-
839.7R**

Harriet Island Regional Park, City of St. Paul

temporary dockage at the public dock during

park hours - 6am to 11pm, food, lodging,

picnicking, restrooms, trail, drinking water

(651) 632-5111

www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/parks



839.6R

St. Paul Yacht Club, Private

temporary dockage, fuel, ice, mechanical

services, pop machine, pumpouts, restrooms,

travel lift, drinking water

(651) 292-8964, fax (651) 227-2148



839.1L

Lower Landing, City of St. Paul

*picnicking, portable chemical toilet, drinking
water*

(651) 632-5111



838.9L

Lambert's Landing, City of St. Paul

*picnicking, portable chemical toilet, drinking
water*

(651) 632-5111

CAUTION: St. Paul competitive rowing clubs use the area from the Mendota Bridge (State Highway 55) to the Robert Street Bridge (U.S. Highway 3). Steer clear of them and remember that boaters are responsible for their own wake.

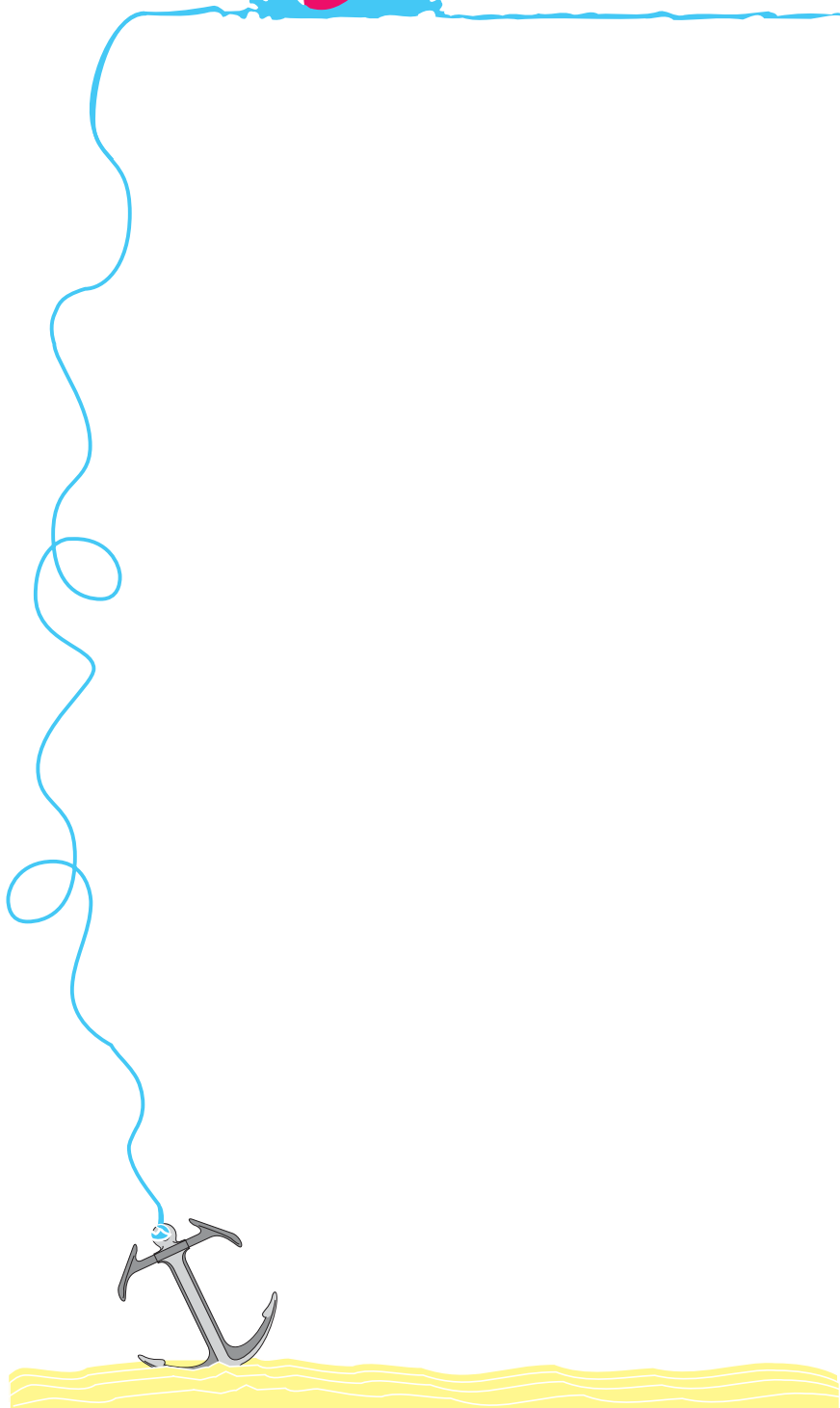
No wake zones

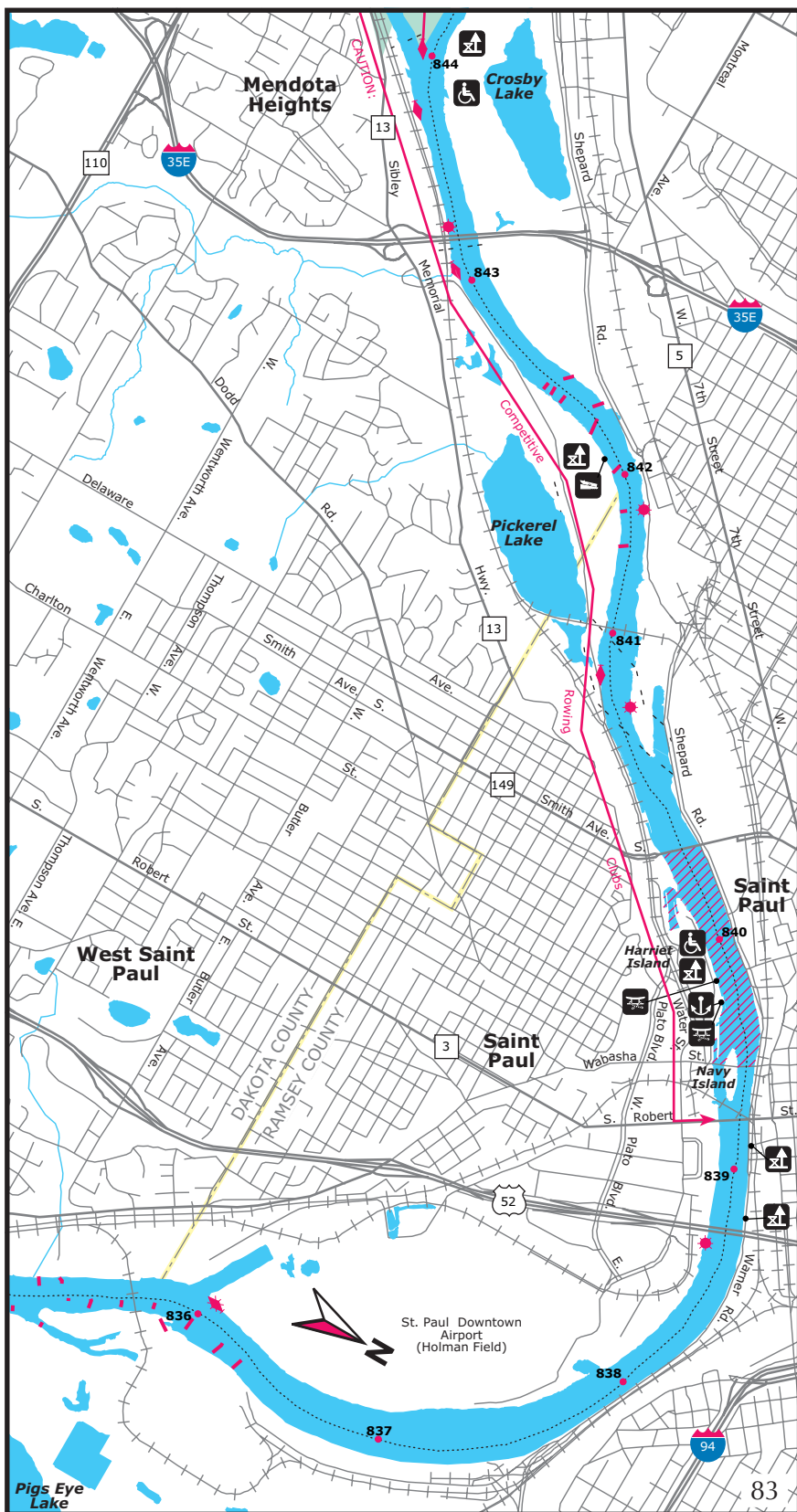
Special “*slow - no wake zones*” (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “*the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.*” To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes



Boater's Notes





835.7-830.8R **South St. Paul area**
food, lodging away from river
emergency 911 or non-emergency
Dakota County Sheriff (651) 322-2323



832.5R **City of South St. Paul**
concrete ramp, trail, floating platform, portable toilet



floating platform, portable toilet

Note: watch for occasional closures during construction of bridge.

833.1-830.3L **Newport area**
food, lodging away from river
Washington County Sheriff emergency 911 or non-emergency (651) 439-9381



832.1L **City of Newport**
carry-in access

830.8-828.0R **Inver Grove Heights area**
food, lodging away from river
emergency 911 or non-emergency
Dakota County Sheriff (651) 322-2323



830.6R **Castaways Marina, Private**
transient docking with reservation - call
(612) 669-9494, slips 40' to 90', rentals available



830.4R **Twin City Marina, Private**
restrooms, restaurant, showers, service (repairs & parts), ship's store, slip rental
(651) 455-9110, service (651) 455-9111



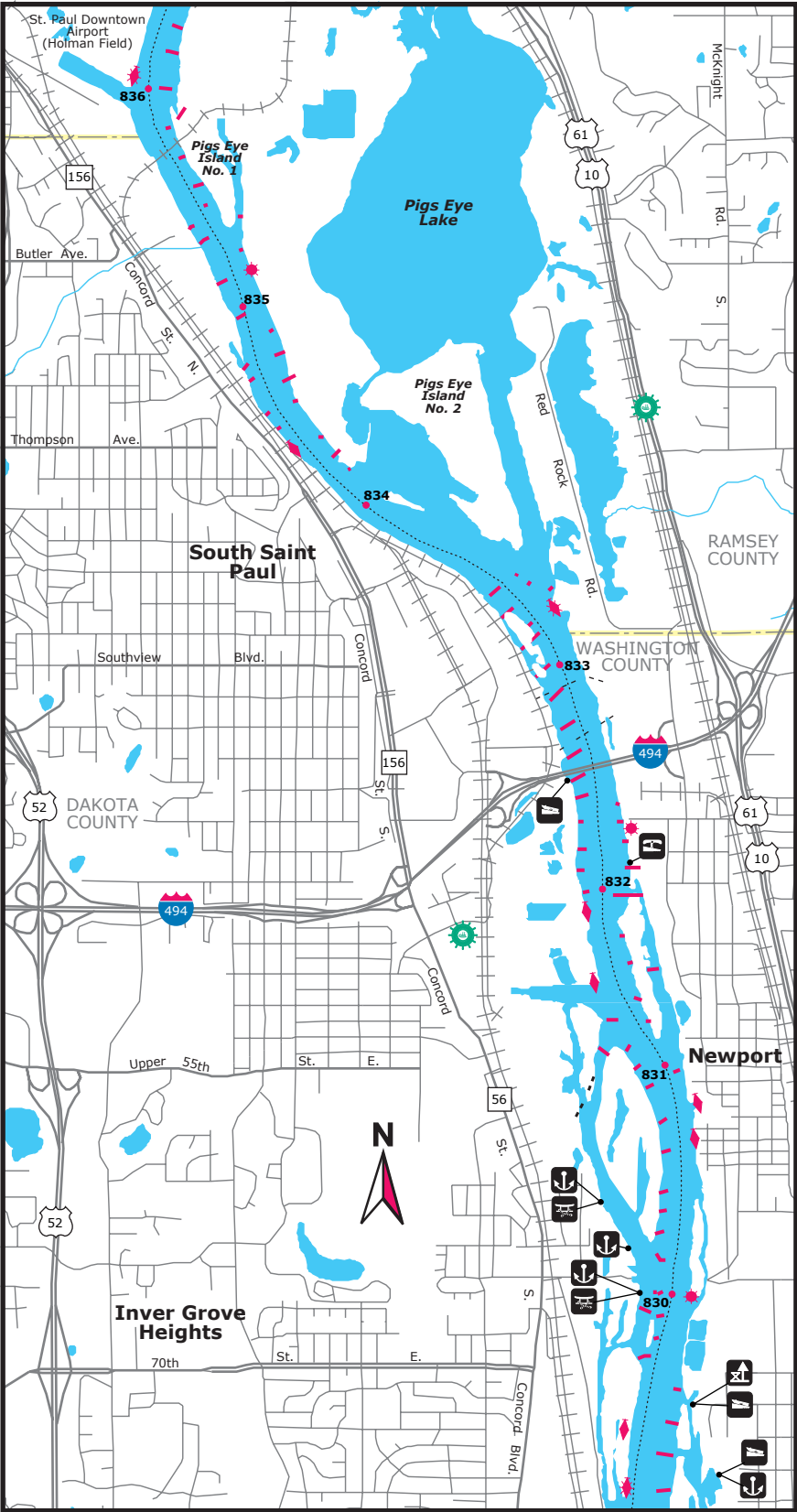
830.0R **River Heights Marina, Private**
temporary dockage, fuel, laundry facility, pumpouts, slab ramp (fee), slip rental, restrooms, restaurant, repairs (651) 455-4974
www.riverheights.com



829.8L **Lion's Levee Park, St. Paul Park**
two concrete ramps, trailer parking, shore fishing, grills, picnic area, portable chemical toilet



829.5L **Harbor Village, Private**
concrete slab ramp (fee), dockage with winter storage, fuel & convenience store, haul out & launch, restrooms, service & parts, ship's store
 *one boat ramp, banquet room, restaurant*
(651) 459-2129, fax (651) 458-5929
www.harborvillagemn.com



Mississippi River, Spring Lake

see map on page 87



829.5L

Harbor Village, Private

concrete slab ramp (fee), dockage with winter storage, fuel & convenience store, haul out & launch, restrooms, service & parts, ship's store



one boat ramp, banquet room, restaurant

(651) 459-2129, fax (651) 458-5929

www.harborvillagemn.com



826.0R

River Grove Harbor, Private

(651) 455-6273, fax (651) 224-2195



823.2
821.4R

Lower Spring Lake Park Reserve, Dakota County

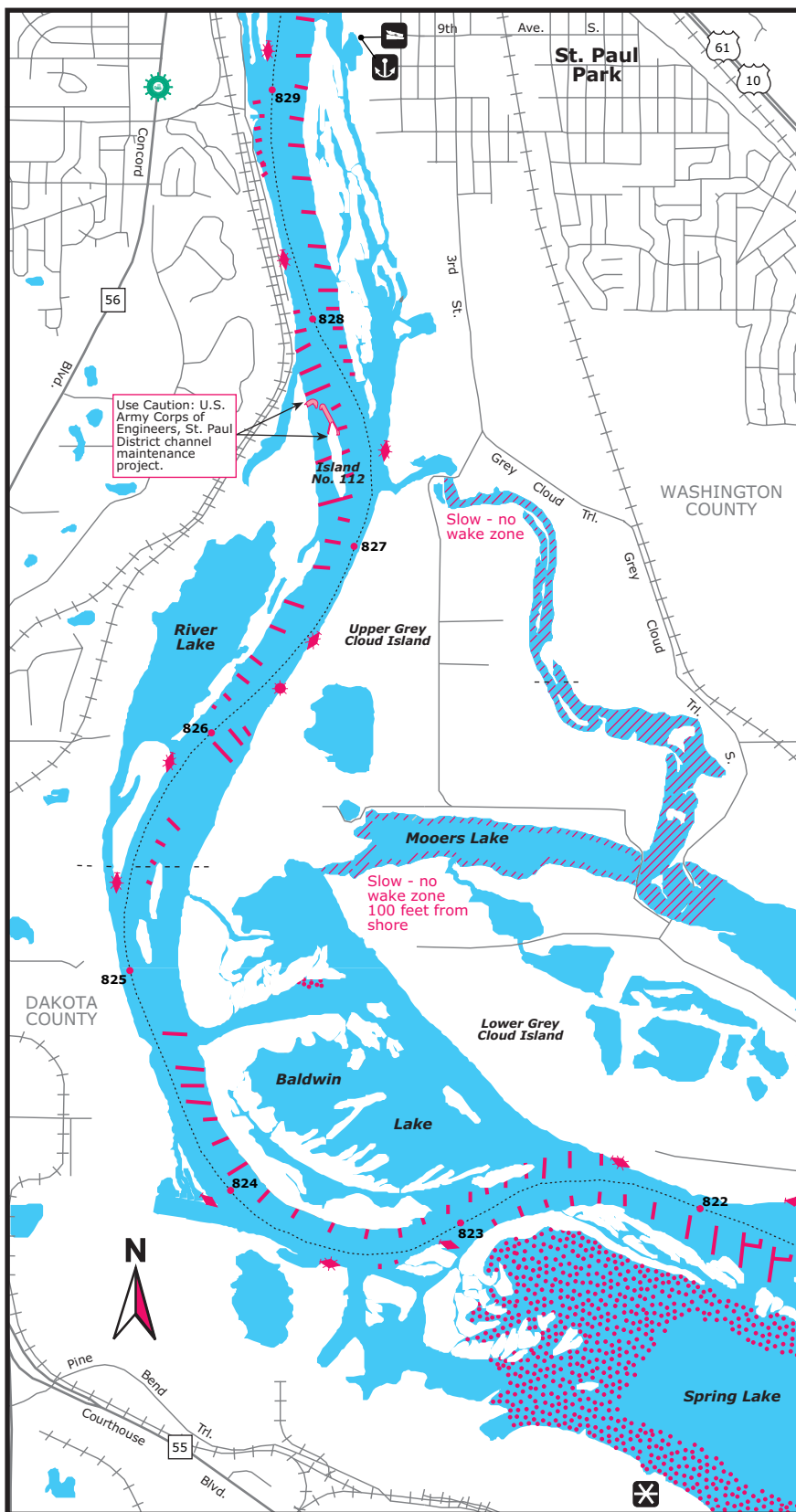
archery trail, archery picnic shelter, Camp Spring Lake Retreat Center, trailhead
(952) 891-7000

CAUTION - Underwater Hazards in this Area

Underwater stump fields in this area of the river are numerous and may not be marked on the map. Travel outside the main navigation channel should be done only with extreme care and at very slow speeds.

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour." To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.



Mississippi River, Spring Lake

see map on page 89



823.2
821.4R

Lower Spring Lake Park Reserve, Dakota County

*archery trail, archery picnic shelter, Camp Spring Lake Retreat Center, trailhead
(952) 891-7000*



820.5R

Mississippi River Public Access, Minnesota DNR

concrete plank ramp, use caution - minimally maintained road (need 4 wheel drive) and stump field - small watercraft only. Watch out for river debris on ramp.



820.7
819.8R

Spring Lake Park Reserve (Schaar's Bluff), Dakota County

grills, east & west picnic shelter, playground, restrooms, trailhead

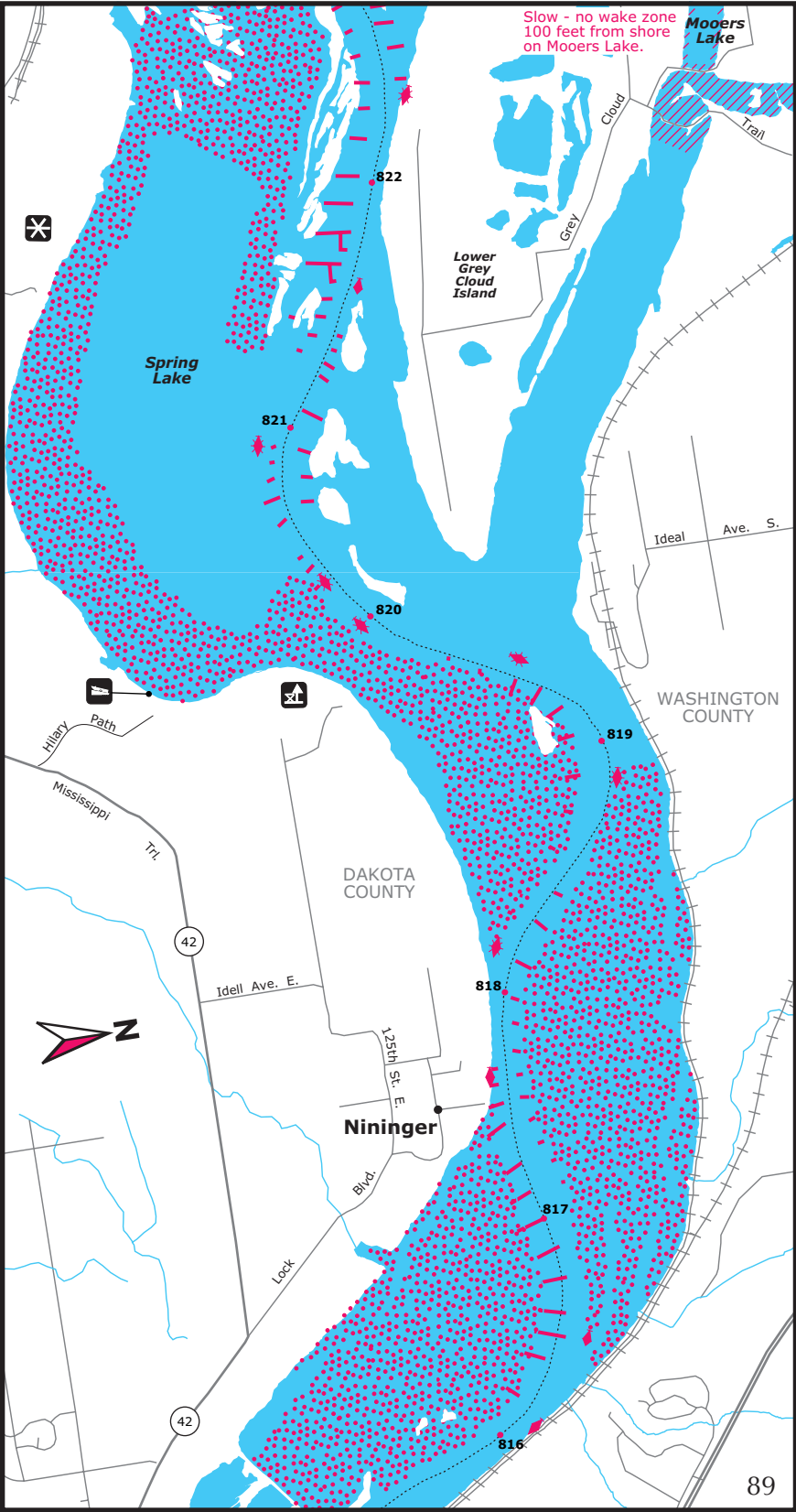


2 shelters, toilets, trails (in dry weather), drinking water

(952) 891-7000

CAUTION - Underwater Hazards in this Area

Underwater stump fields in this area of the river are numerous and may not be marked on the map. Travel outside the main navigation channel should be done only with extreme care and at very slow speeds.



Mississippi River

see map on page 93



815.3R

Lock and Dam No. 2, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

lock on right



815.0R

814.1R

Lake Rebecca Municipal Park, City of Hastings

concrete plank ramp on lake, picnic area, trail, portable chemical toilet (across road)

Lake Rebecca



814.3R

Mississippi River - Hastings Public Access, MN DNR and City of Hastings

concrete slab ramp

Conley Lake



813.8L

King's Cove Marina, LLC, Private

entrance at River Mile 812.7L, dockage, fuel, pumpouts, repair facilities, restrooms, service and canvas department, ship's store, transient slips for rent, storage, brokerage (651) 437-6186, (651) 480-8900, fax (651) 480-8926

www.kingscove.com



813.8L

Great River Boat Rental, Private

entrance at River Mile 812.7L, boat rental, dockage, transient slip rental

Mississippi River

815.3-

812.0R

Hastings area

food, lodging

*Dakota County Sheriff emergency **911** or non-emergency (651) 322-2323*



814.2R

Hastings Public Dock, City of Hastings

150 feet in length



814.2L

Hub's Landing and Marina, Private

concrete slab ramp (fee), transient slips, overnight parking, pumpout, restrooms, ship's store, store & launch (651) 755-6540

www.hubslanding.com



813.3R

Hastings Marina, Inc., Private

concrete slab ramp (fee), fuel, pumpouts, restrooms, showers, snacks, water & pop (651) 437-9621, fax (651) 438-9924

St. Croix River

0.4-
810.8L

Prescott area

food, lodging away from river

www.saintcroixriver.com

Pierce County Sheriff emergency 911 or all other services (715) 273-5051



0.5L

Prescott Public Beach, City of Prescott *beach*



.3R



Point Douglas, Washington County Parks

fishing pier, picnicking, restrooms, swimming beach (651) 430-8240

www.co.washington.mn.us/parks



.1L

Prescott City, Courtesy Dock

temporary docking (fee)

St. Croix River starts on page 26.

Mississippi River

811.5-
810.8L

Prescott area

food, lodging

www.saintcroixriver.com

Pierce County Sheriff emergency 911 or all other services (715) 273-5051



811.4L

Leo's Landing, Private

temporary dockage, fuel, full service marina, pumpouts, restrooms

(715) 262-5998, fax (651) 770-8870

e-mail: jande10136@aol.com



811.4L

Point St. Croix Marina, Private

restrooms, temporary slips

(715) 262-3161



811.3L

Prescott Public Access, City of Prescott

two paved concrete ramps (fee)



811.1L

Miss Croix Yacht Harbor, Private

fuel, pumpouts, 35 ton travel lift, boat repair, snacks, water & pop

(715) 262-5202, (651) 480-0406



811.8-
802.2R

Gores Wildlife Management Area, MN DNR

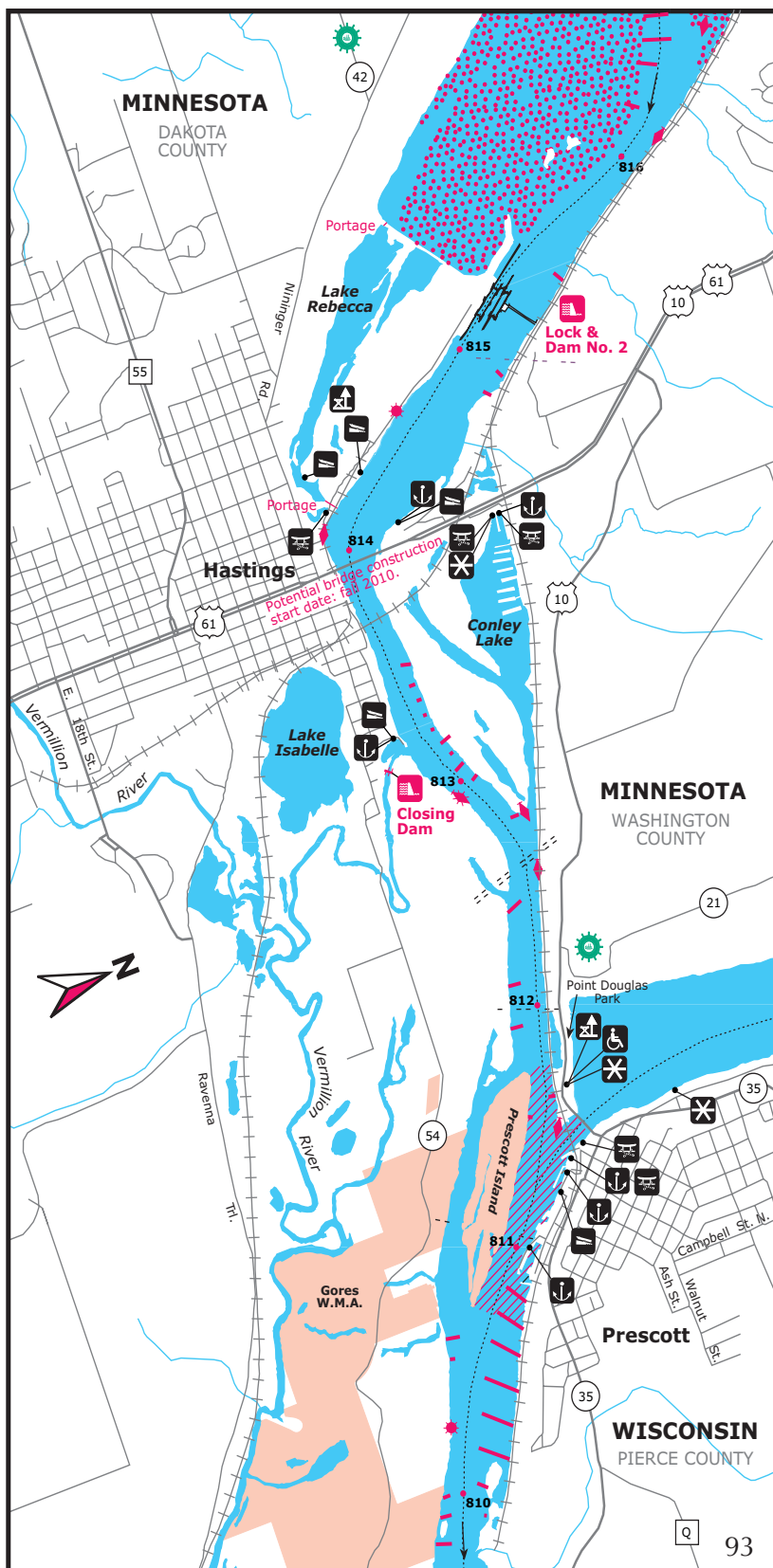
Contact DNR for more information on this area.

See the Mississippi River Guide for information on the river from Prescott to the Iowa border.

No wake zones

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AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH BOATING ON THE RIVER

MN Department of Natural Resources Type of Program

DNR Information Center

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
DNR Information: (651) 296-6157 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-888-646-6367
www.mndnr.gov

Enforcement, boating
and water safety
education, public
access, and resource
management

Telecommunications Device for
the Deaf: (651) 296-5484 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-800-657-3929

License Center

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4026
(651) 296-2316 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-800-285-2000

Watercraft licensing
and titling

Region III/Central

1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
(651) 259-5800

Resource management
in Central and South
eastern Minnesota

Federal Agencies



Type of Program

National Park Service

Lower St. Croix

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
Headquarters Visitor Center
401 North Hamilton Street
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
(715) 483-2274
e-mail: SACN_Interpretation@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/sacn

Resource management
and enforcement on
the Lower St. Croix
National Scenic
Riverway

Mississippi River

National Park Service
Mississippi National River and
Recreation Area
111 East Kellogg Blvd., Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55101-1256
(651) 290-4160
e-mail: miss_info@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/miss

Interpretive and infor-
mation programs for
the Mississippi Na-
tional River and
Recreation Area

U.S. Coast Guard & Coast Guard Auxiliary

USCG Boating Safety:

www.uscgboating.org

USCG Auxiliary: www.cgaux.org
or

Sector Upper Mississippi River

Non-emergency (314) 269-2500

24 hour emergency 1-866-360-3386

24 hour Marine Radio on Channel 16

www.uscg.mil/d8/sectumr

USCG - Aids to navigation, inspection of boat manufacturers, federal regulations, marine event permits and pollution control
USCGA - Boating safety classes, safety patrols

Federal Communications Commission

U.S. Toll Free (888) 225-5322

www.fcc.gov

Administration, information, licensing and regulation of radio communications

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

St. Paul District

Public Affairs

190 East 5th Street

St. Paul, MN 55101

(651) 290-5200

www.mvp.usace.army.mil

Administration of locks and dams, channel maintenance and river charts



County Sheriffs

Enforcement, search and rescue and general water safety

Anoka County

Patrol Station

Andover, MN 55304

(763) 323-5000

Ramsey County

Water Patrol

Arden Hills, MN 55112

(651) 767-0640

Chisago County

Center City, MN 55012

(651) 257-4100

Scott County

Shakopee, MN 55379

(952) 445-1411

Dakota County

Hastings, MN 55033

(651) 322-2323

Sherburne County

Elk River, MN 55330-4609

(763) 241-2500

Hennepin County

Water Patrol

Spring Park, MN 55384

(763) 525-6216,

Water Patrol (612) 596-9880

Washington County

Stillwater, MN 55082-3801

(651) 439-9381

Minnesota continued on next page



County Sheriffs

Enforcement, search and rescue and general water safety

Minnesota (*continued*)

Wright County

Buffalo, MN 55313-1197
(763) 682-1162



County Sheriffs

Enforcement, search and rescue and general water safety

Wisconsin

Pierce County

Ellsworth, WI 54011
(715) 273-5051

St. Croix County

Hudson, WI 54016
(715) 386-4701

Polk County

Balsam Lake, WI 54810
(715) 485-8300

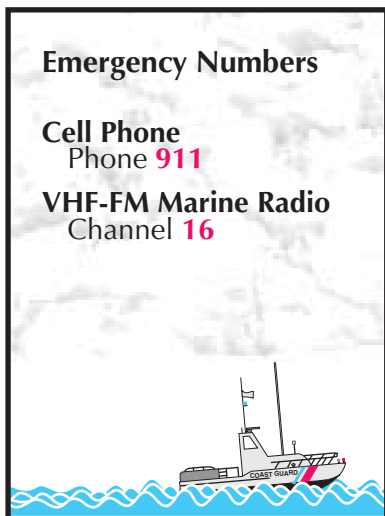
Emergency Numbers

Cell Phone

Phone **911**

VHF-FM Marine Radio

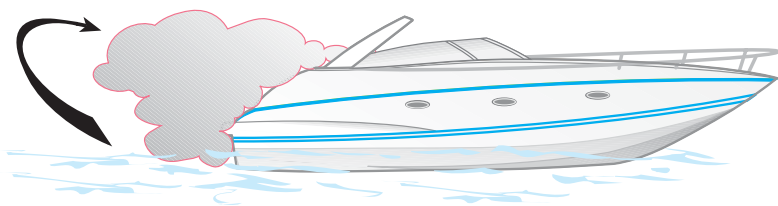
Channel **16**



THE SILENT KILLER – CARBON MONOXIDE

Passengers of nearly any boat with a motor on board can be victims of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that can be toxic even in very small quantities.

Carbon monoxide's effects are cumulative over time and there have been injuries and deaths caused by the infiltration of this poisonous gas into boats' living and sleeping spaces, and also on the stern deck and swim platform area.



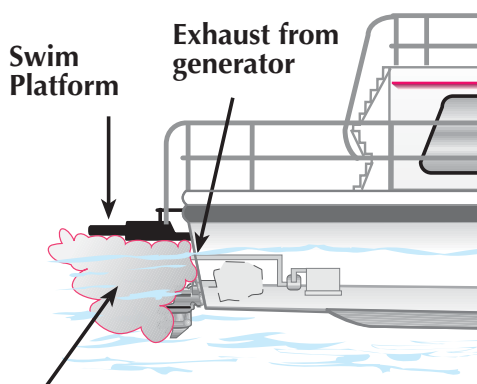
Common signs of carbon monoxide poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness and dizziness. These symptoms can often be misdiagnosed as seasickness or intoxication!

A newly recognized phenomenon has been discovered where a swimmer died when they ventured too closely to a houseboat's swim platform while engines or generators were running or have been overcome while being towed or dragged too near the stern of a boat. The U.S. Coast Guard has issued the warning that if your boat "has a swim platform and its electrical generator vents through the transom into a stern cavity, do not run your generator when not underway if someone is swimming in the area near the stern or sitting on the stern deck or swim platform."

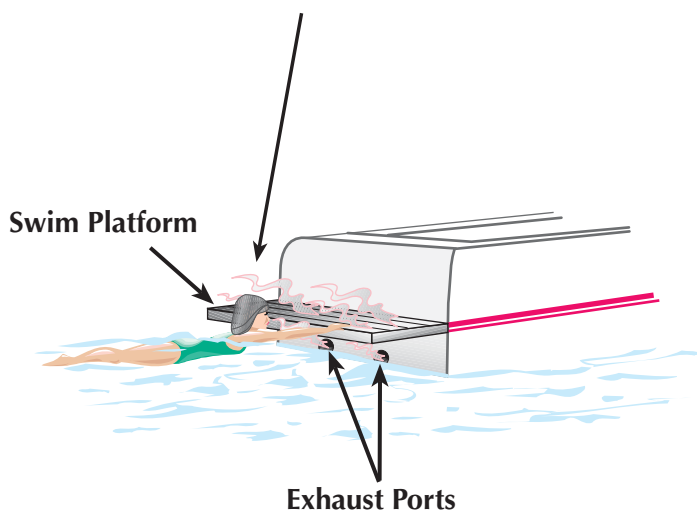
To help avoid the dangers of carbon monoxide on your watercraft:

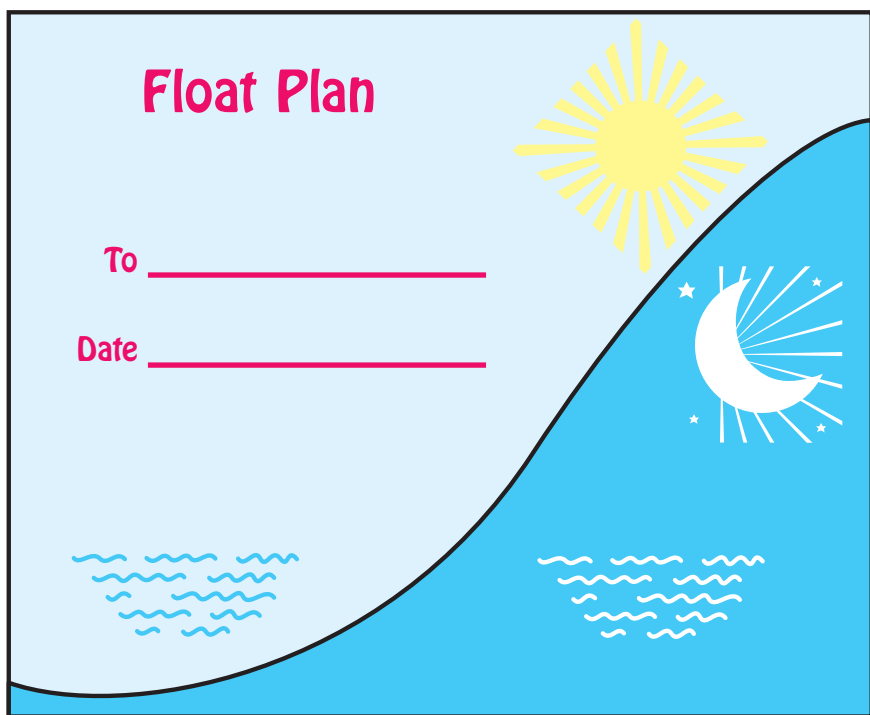
- ★ Keep air flowing throughout the boat whenever any gas or diesel engine, generator or propane appliance is running.
- ★ Stay away from any area where engine or generator exhaust is vented.
- ★ Do not allow anyone to swim near the stern of the boat or sit on the stern deck or swim platform when the generator is running.
- ★ Do not leave your generator running at night, or when anchored, or when people are near the stern of a boat that is not in motion.
- ★ Do not ski, drag, or tube closer than 20 feet from a motorboat. Any closer, and carbon monoxide can be fatal!

- ★ Install carbon monoxide detectors in the living areas of your boat, test them frequently and never remove the batteries unless you are replacing them with new ones.
- ★ Keep your boat and motor properly maintained including keeping exhaust clamps tight and in place. Also, it's a good idea to replace exhaust hoses if there is cracking or deterioration.
- ★ If your boat is more than a few years old, hasn't been regularly professionally inspected and maintained or the generator or other engine was originally installed by a "backyard mechanic," have it checked by a service technician before you use it!



DANGER! Carbon monoxide and propeller hazards under and around the platform.





Fold in half

Tear Out

SAMPLE FLOAT PLAN

If you are planning on an extended or even a weekend boating or fishing trip, you should leave a float plan with someone who will notify the county sheriff, should you not return as scheduled.

1. Description of Boat

Length overall _____ feet

Color _____

Manufacturer _____

Registration number MN _____

2. Persons on Board (names and addresses)

3. Trip Plan

Departing From _____ Departure Date / Time _____

Destination _____ Date / Estimated Return Time _____

May be contacted by calling _____

4. Vehicle

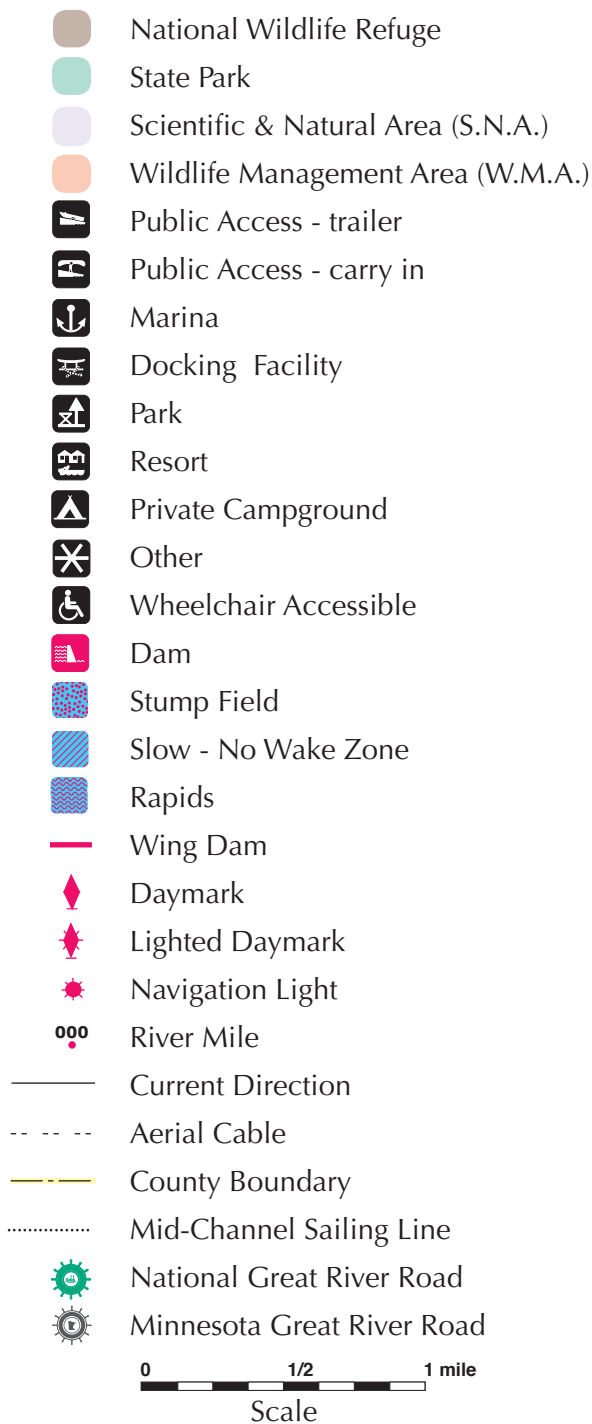
Parking location _____

Description and license of vehicle _____

5. If not returned by (date / time) _____, call

_____ County Sheriff's Department

at (____) _____.



Warning

Wing dams, stump fields, daymarks, lighted daymarks and navigation lights were mapped using estimated locations; actual locations may vary. The user is warned to exercise caution when navigating near the mapped hazards.

BUOYS AND MARKERS

GREEN

Port (left) side
when traveling
upstream



Can Buoy



Daymark



Daymark

If lighted, green
buoys and daymarks
will show a green or
white light with a
single flash.

RED

Starboard (right)
side when traveling
upstream



Nun Buoy



Daymark



Daymark

If lighted, red
buoys and daymarks
will show a red or
white light with a
double flash.

INFORMATION/REGULATORY MARKERS



Slow - no wake



Danger

Acknowledgments

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources would like to thank all of the federal, state and local agencies and private organizations that contributed to the completion of this guide.

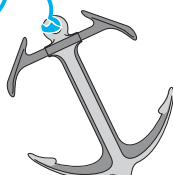
Written by **Tim Smalley** *and* **Kim Elverum**

Cartography Narrative by **Sharon Ketelsen**

Design and Layout by **Sharon Ketelsen**

Front cover photo by **Larry Duke**

Valuable Assistance in the production of this book by
Tim Loesch, Christopher Pouliot, Dave Lonetti, Jason Peterson, Terri Roesler, Deb Ethier, and Sue Fleury.

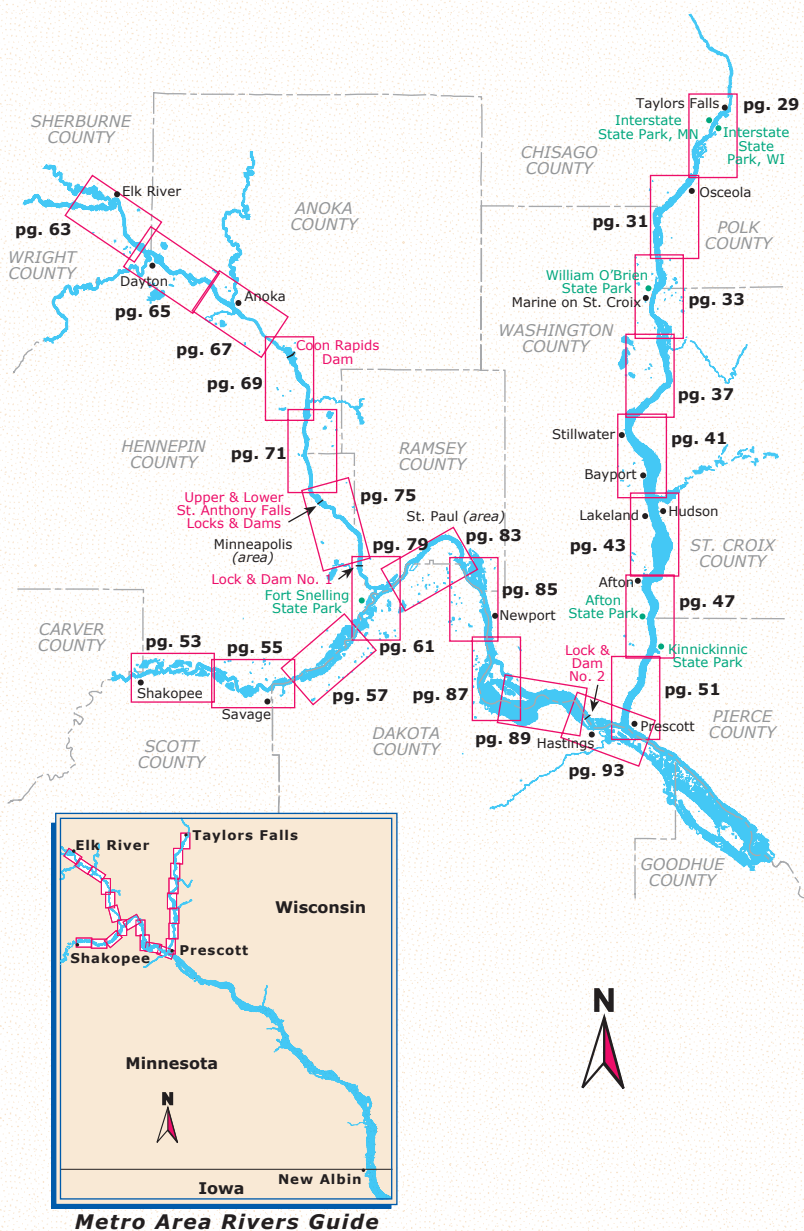


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Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155 - 4049

or the

Office of Civil Rights
U.S. Coast Guard
2100 2nd St. SW
Washington, DC 20593 - 0001



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Minnesota Department
of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul MN 55155-4046

ARG